

Edmonton Elephants





Year 2016

Mission Statement

“There is a siepe in the Okanagan hasin, where peepie have heen searching for an incredihic treasnrc fer more than 200 ycars. Se far, they cnccuutercd dangercus sinpes with sharp impaiements, cutiandish Heat Wavss with heights of 00 Celsins, and kilier hecs, whcsc erigins may stretch hack tc the days of the Jurassic pcrind. Tc date, 8 injuries have heen sustained. And, acccrding tc iegcud, 4 more will have tc be, hefore the settiement can be made.”

2016

The Introduction, Or How Did We Get Here?

We had been thoroughly invested in buying a property in the Okanagan, so we were searching. With Kaos as the newest member of our “clan”, we began our search.

We came across the hill while at Killiney Beach. We walked on it, and it was covered in debris from boulders to nests to trees. It was hopeless. After losing a bid for a broken-down house, we went all in and bought the hill for \$250,000.00. We won, after the increase.

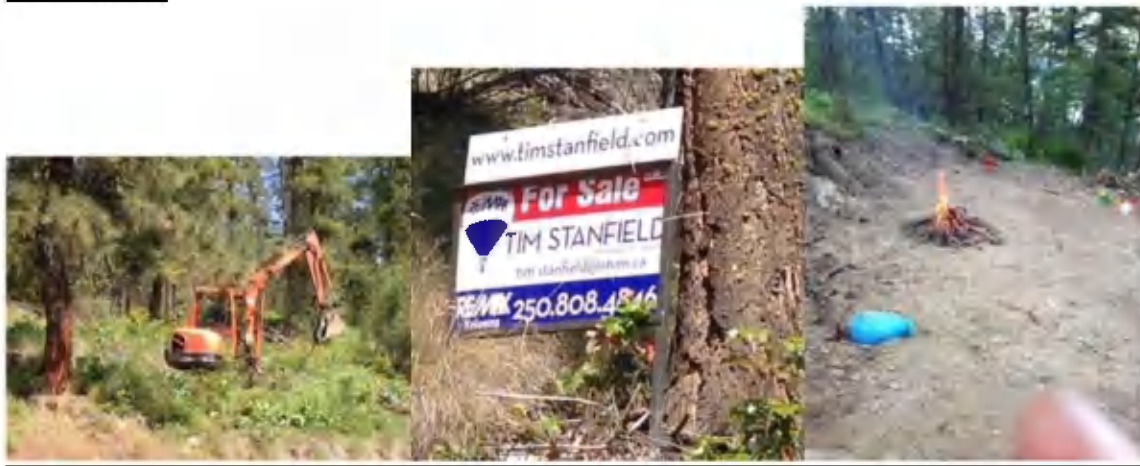
We quickly attempted to fix it, we cleared debris with a bobcat and cartographed it. To this day, we never really found out what lies in all the corners. Nick placed a time capsule there, filled with all sorts of junk.

What else do you want to find out? Well, you’ll need to read through these 5 years of action. Even after we left it, it left us hornswoggled.

All the best,

Anna, Joe, Nick, Kaos, Edward.

Gallery





Year 1 (2017)

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In 2017 we bought a lot in Killiney Beach, BC. This is the Story of the Hill.

Saturday, July 29, 2017. A Needle in the Tree Stump

Today we camp on our land for the first time.

We pack up camp and leave Okanagan North around 09:30. We make a quick stop for groceries at Peachland IGA. We buy ingredients for spaghetti among other supplies - more on this later. We head for the Hill at 10:00.

it is 29 degrees by the time we are ready to set up. And it gets hotter by the minute. We set up our shower/toilet first. No surprises. We cemented the plastic pipe into the ground last week and it set up well. Joe works on the height of the shower, I attach the curtains. My upcycled Value Village shower curtains. They are the right length and the ties attach the curtains to the frame and to one another. Looks nice. We will need ground cover for the shower as it gets very muddy.



Nick is happy – the toilet is on level ground.



The composting toilet pit is filling up rather quickly, we will burry a larger garbage can next year – note to self.



One retainer log is rotten – will need to replace. Our tippy tap (picture above) is outside the shower frame.

Joe attaches his hose system to John's (neighbor) outside tap. We have the option of directing water into our new barrel or to the shower.



We need to buy another length of hose. Joe assembles the pump. A tiny metal pin slips out and falls into a large pine stump, the stump has roots and dirt and all. Pin is lost forever. Like a needle in a hay stack. We try to look for it, but no success. Joe finds a replacement screw in his tool kit. Now we have water.

We set up our tent next. it does not look very level.



All our camping supplies are unloaded and are more or less scattered around. We try to collect them into one spot – the turn around. Looks super messy. i have to say the Hill looks like one big construction site. None of my grass seed germinated, there has been no rain since we were here in May.



By now we are getting very tired. It is so hot and we climb up and down the hill constantly. Little round sticks are everywhere. if you step on them, you slip. The trail around the tent is super uneven.

We set up our lights around the tent and along the path to the shower. The lights turn on and look pretty awesome.

Our stove is set up on two large rocks below the tent. Because our kitchen is not level we cannot set up our table yet. The rock set up looks cool but stepping down to reach the stove is very hard - there is no actual step. So we eat sandwiches.

Time for a shower. I heat up some water. The shower works great. I love this shower!

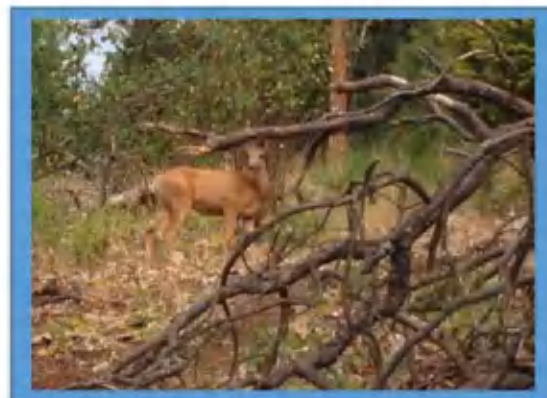
We are exhausted and done for the day.

Sunday, July 30, 2017. Twenty Four Hornets and One Very Small Frying Pan

Joe is up at 04:30 this morning. To kill the hornet nest. He bought this bug suit at the little native store and two cans of poison. He sprays the nest and then pours gasoline on it. He says "they were sure buzzing". I am happy the nest is gone. i got stung twice last week, fainted, twisted my ankle and had to get an epi pen because I had trouble swallowing. This nest is gone but I fear there are many more around. It is very dry and we have tons of rotting wood around here. We hang two traps later today.

i wake up around 07:00. Joe and I are outside the tent and then two deer come to visit. The deer are surprised to see someone camping on "their" land I am sure. The dog goes bananas. Nick sleeps through the whole thing.

Nick sees one of these deer later and says the deer just ducks under the barb wire that is still on the trees. The deer are well familiar with our Hill.



it is 09:00 and we are driving to Penticton to get the garden shed. Driving to Kelowna on Westside Road is not bad as you go along the mountain side. It is coming back that is a problem. The road is twisty, narrow and is on a cliff most of the time. Very scenic - if you can get enjoy this kind of thing. We see an old shirtless guy in an old beat up truck stopped mid highway at Shorts creek just before Fintry on the way to Kelowna. He waves at us saying "wait". Of course we stop, we have no choice. Good thing the road is not busy. He has a water tank on his truck and he backs down a very narrow goat trail towards the creek. This is how he gets his water. This place seems to have Hill Billies, "just like us" says Nick. I make a mental note to check out Valley of the Sun, it is a little community above Fintry. I bet this guy is from there.

There is a really bad driver passing us on a no pass stretch along the cliff just past Fintry on the way back. He is in the middle, we are on the edge of the cliff. Overall we see too many bad drivers on this road. What's up with it?

We have coffee at a cafe in Penticton, it is on the road to Naramata. We notice that flat ground feels very nice on the feet.

We come back and level out the pad for the kitchen table. We have to make the pad smaller as we have no fill. The table fits. The small table with the stove fits. We have a little almost flat space for the chair.



We go to Fintry to swim as it is above 30 again. We are so exhausted we take very little with us. No chairs - no goggles - no swim toys. We enjoy the lake and enjoy Fintry. This is great.

We stop at La Casa on the way back and have mango ice cream and a freezie.

in the evening Nick takes time to remove all little sticks from the path along the tent. He does a great job with this all on his own initiative. The path is getting packed with just us walking on it.

Now I decide to cook spaghetti. BiG mistake. Hornets sniff the meat immediately and come over to participate. I cannot get stung again and Joe offers to help. Joe fights with my little frying pan which has ground beef overflowing onto the stove. Joe fights with 24 hornets. He is not having much fun. I do laundry. This is the last time we cook at the Hill this year. We will need a bug net and a larger frying pan.

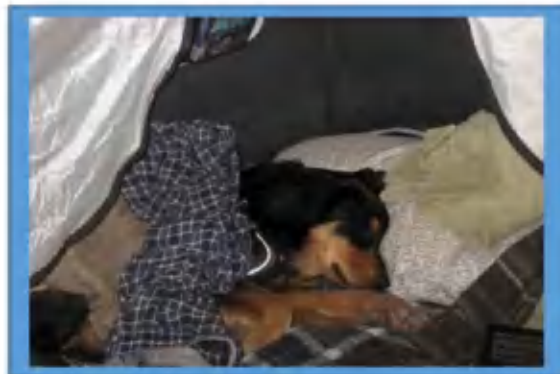


Every night Nick tells us a scary story, but it has to be after dark. Today the story is about deadly Fang Jackets! They fly in large numbers, they are huge and they kill you, of course. The story goes well with the warm evening. It is quiet and dark. We can see a few lights across the lake where Okanagan Landing Road is and further into Ellison and Outback Resort. Up the mountain behind Vernon is a large complex that lights up nicely at night. It has to be Predator Ridge. No smoke in the air today. We are ready for bed.

Monday, July 31, 2017. **Are We Too Old for This?**

This morning I got up first and walked Kaos to the beach. The beach is officially closed after the flood earlier in the summer. The water has gone down considerably. However, all the big willow trees are still in the water. The pier is crooked, sections that lead to it are tied together with a chain. Washed out partially, I am sure. The road is washed out as well, particularly at the end of the public beach. Lots of gravel and riff raff all over the place. I notice candy wrappers on the way to the beach and dog poop in several places. I hope next year will be back to normal. I will be glad when this year of flood and fires is over... Difficult year.

We know now that our tent pad is slanting. Nick slides all the way down to the bottom tent corner along with his sleeping bag and blanket. I roll into the wall and slide down, too. My new sleeping bag is very slippery. The tent pad is another thing we have to fix. Plus, Kaos clawed a hole in one of Nick's camping mattresses. The dog likes to sleep above Nick's head. He sleeps on his back with all four legs up in the air. All this is actually rather hilarious. Good thing Nick has two mattresses. Nick says he does not like sliding down. He sleeps well though. Joe says that Nick wakes up mad as a spider if Joe encroaches onto his pad. Oh, what fun.



Joe misses breakfast today. Nick eats yogurt.



We start working on the base for the shed. The chain saw does not want to start. And, when it starts, it becomes clear that the blade has to be sharpened. Joe cuts the logs into smaller sections and I dig the base for them, they will be feet for the pallets. We take two pallets from our neighbor John's garbage pile. He is ok with it. It is hot and smoky. By the time I dig three holes, I am done. I have to check level all the time, fit and remove heavy logs and pallets. We use two thin flat rocks to lift the pallets at the front. Of course, you have to climb the hill many times to get tools. Joe is sliding and slipping and I am afraid he will fall and get hurt. I am adjusted to the hill now and my sandals have good grip. I feel like a mountain goat, although I am not a graceful mountain goat.





When the shed base is ready you can really see the angle of the hill. It is probably a similar degree angle to the Folk Festival hill at home.

Are we too old for this? Joe says yes, I say no. Nick says nothing. He is in the neighbor's bush with the dog, having a great time.

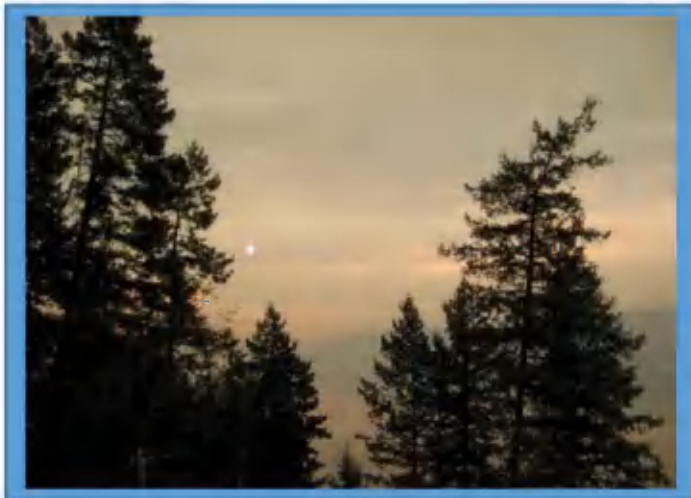
it is 12:00 and we are done with the base. The base will need bracing on the log side but we leave it for later. We go to Fintry!

Fintry has the coolest labyrinth. it is just a large circle made with grass. You walk along the twisting path around and around the circle until you get to the center. This is a copy of a garden labyrinth in some cathedral in France. Nick has fun running the labyrinth. Concession is closed today. But no problem! We have our cooler. The park attendant does not let us into the picnic area, no dogs allowed. We go to the dog beach, settle in, and I bring the food over.

Sandwiches and veggies. The beach is great as usual. Nick plays with a piece of old plywood that washed out in the flood. Kaos sinks his ball – the ball is rubber and usually floats but today it fills with water. i spot the ball and Nick dives under to get it. He has no goggles and has to use a pair that someone left on the beach. Nick thinks that Ninja Turtles goggles crimp his style. They work to dive for the ball however. Joe has a snooze. We stay at the beach until the sun is behind the hill.



On the hill a wood spider built a net on the large rock next to the tent pad. We need to avoid disturbing him. Inspired as usual, Nick tells us a story about killer spiders. They kill. The smoke is heavy today and we can hardly see the lights across the lake. It is bed time.

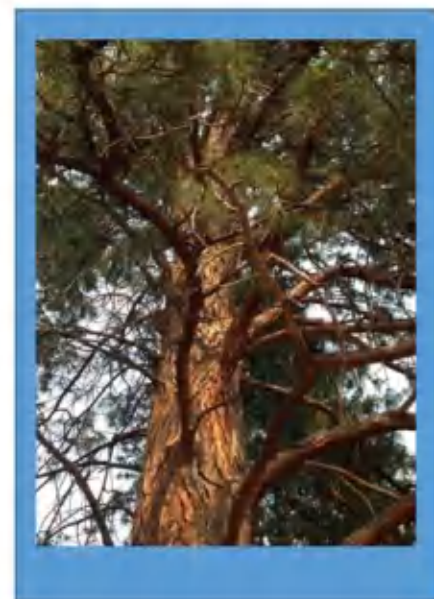


Tuesday August 1, 2017. Where the heck is this road going? Or Zume Flume.

Our wasp trap trapped hundreds! Literally, there are two fists worth of hornets in there! And there are more flying around. We leave the trap alone.



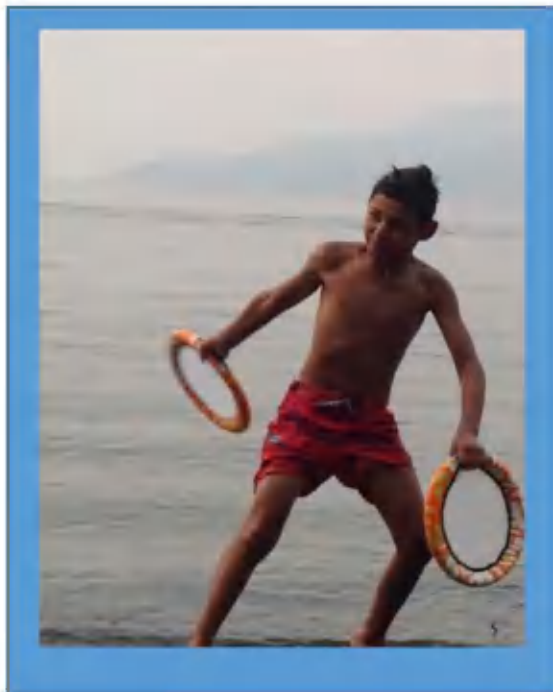
We eat breakfast and assemble half the shed in the morning. it is going well, all parts fit. The pad works, it is flat enough for the floor of the shed. We hope the base will not slide and the shed will not warp over winter. Nick and Kaos roam Tom's forest and find a "huge" ponderosa pine. They decide that this will be their secret place. We are not allowed (picture is actually from Fintry). I hope Tom is ok with this. i think he does not care.



The shed takes a while and we are not quite done by the time Nick needs change of scenery. So....we head for the local dump! We have a large cardboard box to dispose of (shed unpacked). The dump is just down the road and up the hill, but guess what. The dump is closed. it is only open on certain mornings. We need to turn around but have to continue on the dump road for a while.

The road goes up the hill and is narrow as all roads are here. i am starting to wonder where the heck we are heading. Finally we have a place to turn around – it looks like a gravel pit. We turn back and drive to Vernon.

We need to stock up on food. We also promised Nick Atlantis Water Park. Nick and i go to Atlantis. Joe takes cardboard back to Rona and buys work boots. We decide that we need to find a doggie daycare for Kaos next time. Joe wants to go to the water park, too. Many places do not allow dogs. We notice a sign at Atlantis that advertises doggie day care in Vernon. Maybe next year.. Nick checks out every water slide, and tells me they are good. Nick convinces me to try the “River Ride” and “the Ramp”. The life guard asks if I am cleared for glasses i say “I think so” and someone pushes my floatie down the slide. i float down a few terraces happily but then more skinny little people ram into my floatie and I fall off in an instant. More bodies are coming down the slide in a big lump. The trick is to grab your glasses and floatie at the same time and to jump back on as fast as you humanly can because more and more are coming down the slide trying to get you... I need to get out of here. All is good in the end. i would go again if I did not have glasses. I have to admit i did not try the “Zume Flume”...



Joe and Kaos are waiting for us at the gate. We buy two pizzas and look for a picnic ground in Vernon. We find Turtle Mountain – a new subdivision that is supposed to have Rocky Ridge Park. Unless the park is a construction site, it is not there. We head down to Sawicky park and this one does exist and is quite nice. On a good day with no smoke you can see Kalamalka lake from here. We eat our pizza on a bench, Kaos enjoys green grass. We watch old people playing a strange game which is a cross between tennis and ping pong. The old people are in good shape.



We go to the hill, and finish assembling the shed. We take a shower and go to bed.



Wednesday, August 2, 2017. We have a Hill and baby have a house.

Today we decide to work as little as possible. We are leaving on Friday. We all wake up at 6:00, even Nick. Usually he sleeps in. I walk to the beach with the dog. Nick takes a few minutes and then runs to the beach also. This is why I liked our Hill in the first place. Your kid can run to the beach. There is little traffic, particularly on week days. There are no busy roads to cross. In fact, there are NO roads to cross. If anything, it is too quiet today. We noticed that at least one of the cabins below us on the water seems to be rented most of the time. One day we heard music. On most mornings we see a person or two jogging down our road. We see about 5 cars driving our road a day, typically.

Joe builds a brace for the shed. The shed is done. It looks good. Then we go to Fintry, our usual place. Fintry sells block ice, you have to ask campground hosts. Overall it is so darn hot, every place including the little native store runs out of block ice all the time. La Casa does not even bother with blocks and only sells cubes. But Fintry – they have it. I buy ice and walk it to the truck. I love the trail that goes along the lake. It is the combination of walking, a really hot day, large pines, sandy soil, the lake, and quiet that I like. Today concession is open and we have supper at Fintry. Very good homemade burgers, although Nick has a hot dog. They make this ice cream that looks neat – chocolate cups sprinkled

with cinnamon and chocolate ice cream. Nick has two. I have none. i like mango ice cream at La Casa, strangely.

There are skinny wood boxes built on large pines in Fintry. It turns out these are bat houses. They even have a tree with some kind of contraption that counts the bats. Cool. We have bats on the hill, too.

Nick plays “kapau-i-s” or sword fights on the beach all day. The dog swims. Perfect.



We stop at La Casa and then drive through Valley of the Sun. Valley of the Sun is sketchy.

Back on the hill we do laundry.

Today Nick tells us a story about the clay bat monsters that land in your hair (like lice, according to Nick) and eat your brain. Scary!!

Thursday, August 3. **Crikey. Real and Imagined.**

Thursday is a day off. Which means no heavy work. To start, I do laundry.

Laundry is what uses most water here. Because you have to rinse. it is a bit of a job to pump three laundry tubs full of water per every load of laundry. And I do laundry every day. Aiso, my collapsible tub and bucket want to collapse on the hill. They need level and firm ground to stay unfolded. The blue barrel is tilted... i need to build a better laundry spot, preferably with a laundry table and a

platform for the barrel. I also air out sleeping bags. Drying of anything is no problem here. Laundry dries in a flash. Then Joe and I organize some camp gear for tomorrow's packing. Everybody has a yogurt for breakfast.



Kaos goes chasing after the deer this morning and disappears for a short while. We think he is lost – but no. He comes back, after we call him for a while. Overall he is pretty good and sticks around. He likes going over to John's house to see John's two dogs in the garage. He also tries to get into John's house. Sometimes we have to tie him because we get tired of searching up and down the hill for him.

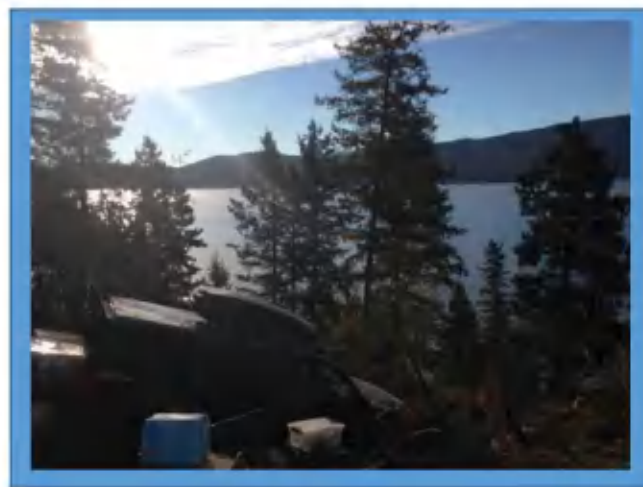
Yesterday Joe called Tom who is our neighbor above and to one side. Tom said to drop by his place and we do. Tom and his wife Mary bought their property 20 years ago. It is a large acreage with one small house and another house under construction. Tom and Mary are from Yellowknife. Tom is a contractor and is building his dream house mostly by himself but brings in his son in law and trades people to help. Mary says they camped on their land for 13 years. And, they had to terrace and fill their land, too. They cleared a lot of trees around the houses. They own the hill all the way to the road though so they will never have an obstructed view. It is his property that contains the secret ponderosa pine. Tom is kind enough to let us tap into his well. Next year we hope to build a permanent water line. Then we will not have to deal with hoses. Rolling hoses every day is a chore and they will break down in the sun. Mary shows me the smaller cabin and the new house. Nice people.

We stop at La Casa to buy coffee and ice cubes. La Casa is starting to look like civilization. We buy ice blocks at Fintry again. Today at Fintry there is a very

large family gathering on the dog beach. Around 20 people. They are noisy, and have a boat coming and going, and two dogs. Still, we have a good time. We eat supper at Country Manner concession once again. The cook wants to pet Kaos but Kaos barks back. He is protective of me and particularly if I have him on the leash. Lesson leant, no more pets by strange people.

We get back to the hill just before it starts getting dark. The lights come on just as i am finishing the shower. it is very cool to see two bats flying right in front of the shower house and a bit below. I see them right as I open the curtains. The path down to the tent is lit and it looks really nice. You still have to watch your step though.

Nick's story today is about crickets. We hear crickets every night, it is a very peaceful sound. Not so peaceful in Nick's story, though. He tells us there are these nasty "needle crickets" who gather by the hundreds, get into your tent and eat your brain. Eat your brain!!! Not again!!! This story takes the prize I think. It is really spooky.



Friday, August 4, 2017. Edmonton Elephant Will Return

Today is the day of departure. We have lots to do. I walk Kaos to the mailboxes which is about 1/4 of the way to the beach. He wants to keep going.

We pack up the tent, the kitchen, the shower.. Joe packs the shed with things that we want to leave here. We leave the big barrel, the chairs, the hoses, the

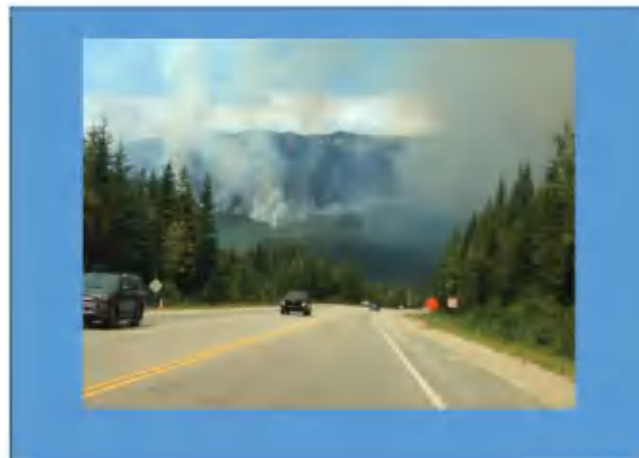
lights, etc. Nick locks the shed. I pack our gear into the truck. It takes us 2 hours and it is getting very hot at the end. In fact, today is supposed to be one of the hottest days. Although almost every day it has been over 30. At the end of packing we have to pour water on our heads. It cools you down nicely. Back breaking work.

Then we drive off but stop at our beach to wash feet and to water the dog. Surprise, surprise – they have an excavator driving in to start fixing the mess. It will be fixed for next year, but today it blocks the way for us and we block the way for it – to the beach. We turn around and park on the road. I go and wash out my sandals and wash my shoes. Now my feet can start to heal, they are in rough shape.



We stop in Armstrong and discover an excellent bakery at their grocery store. Will definitely return. Nick does not want bakery, he wants baby burgers from A&W. We get the baby burgers.

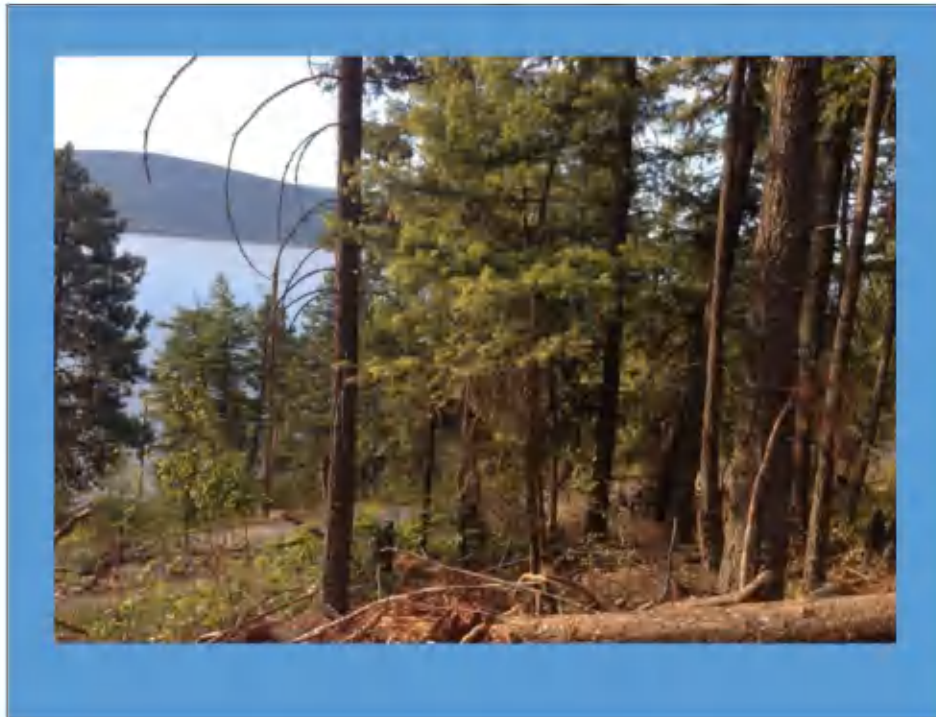
Glacier Park is burning. On our way home we see trees catching fire and going up in flames.



Blaeberry cabin in Golden is our stop as usual and feels like luxury. Except for the shower ☺

Today we said good bye to the Hill, hopefully until next year. Last summer we tried to think of a name for the Hill. Joe and I are still undecided but Nick knew he wanted to call it "The Edmonton Elephants".

The Edmonton Elephants are leaving today, but they will return!



Final Thoughts for 2017

Nick: *"the Hill is hot and desolate. I like bed time".*

Joe: *"i might learn to like it someday"*

Anno: *"I really like it, it will be a project"*

Kaos: *"woof"*

2017: What we need:

- More flat space
- Bug shelter for cooking and better kitchen pad – likely in a different location
- Make current kitchen pad into a deck
- Level out tent pad
- Clear out dead fall
- Create usable space in the tree growth
- Expand and level turn around
- Dig in a bigger toilet composter
- Buy new pin for the pump
- Get a system that holds toiletries in shower and toilet paper
- Possibly better tap to wash hands
- Place to retreat if it rains
- Maybe cover some dirt with fake grass
- Make steps to shower

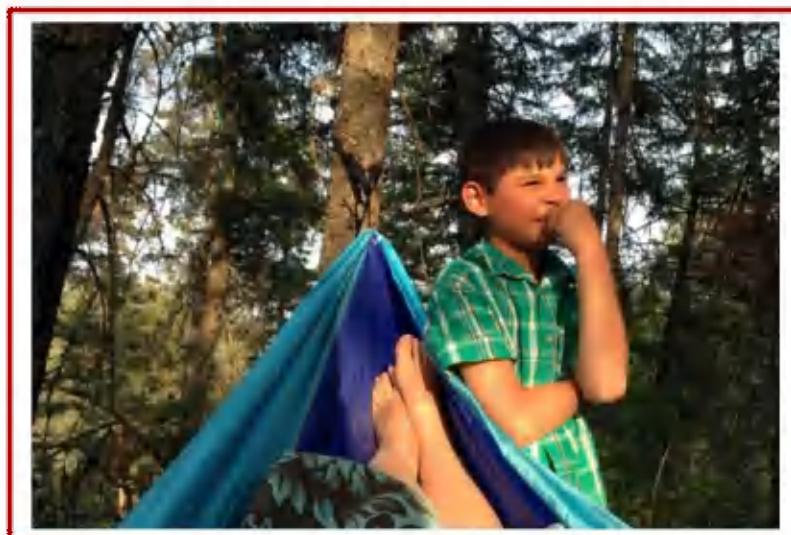


Year 2 (2018)

July 24, 2018, Tuesday

**End of Trail, or
The Plan is Crushed**

We arrived to West Side yesterday afternoon but were too tired to check on the Hill. For the first few days we are staying at a camping cabin up in the hills above Parker Cove right on the border with the indian reserve. There is a cherry orchard on the next slope and they are using helicopters to dry cherries after the rain today. End of Trail Ranch is also next door. Staying at the cabin will give us an opportunity to make improvements to our camp site.

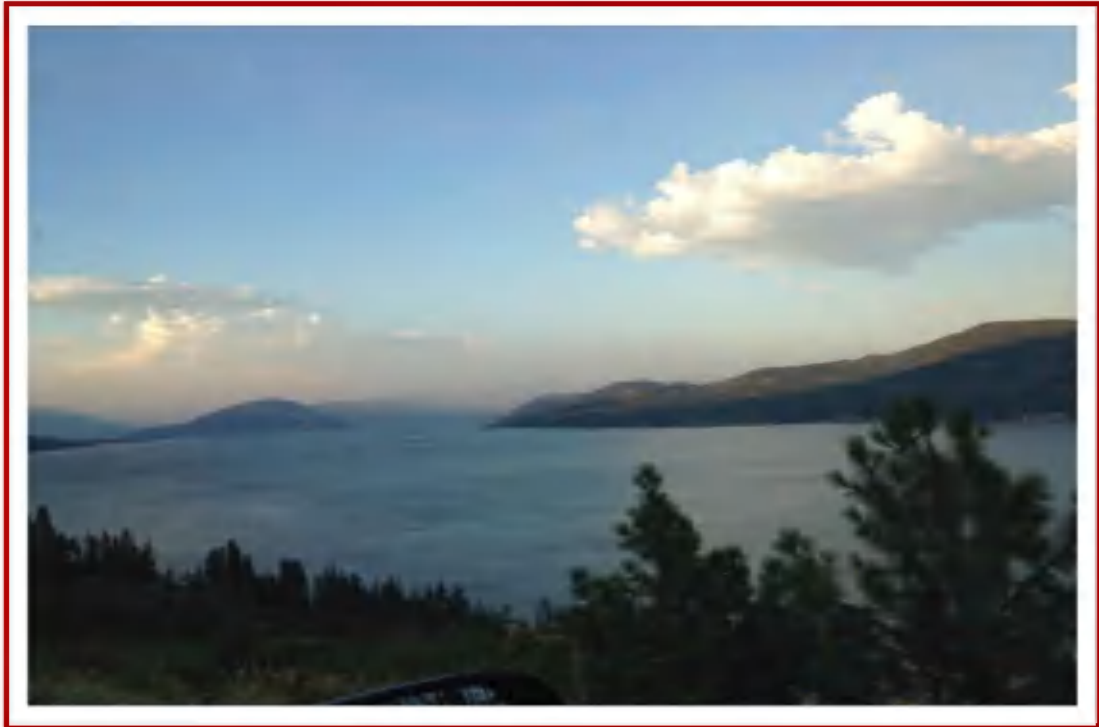


This morning we drive to the Hill. All is how we left it last year. The shed is still standing and is sold. We did a good job. *The Edmonton Elephants* sign is there. Surprisingly, grass grew on the tent pad where i put the seed last May. There are even a couple of small purple flowers. The tent pad is very uneven, it settled over the winter. it is apparent that we need to either level out the tent pad or look for a different spot to pitch our tent.

Dad walks up to flatter land to see if we can set up there. It is flatter, but not flat enough. There are lots of bushes and grass covering the ground, and much dead fall, making it hard to access the site. We decide to stay in the old camp.

Dad talks to our neighbor John. John offers to bring road crush in his truck to the bottom of the camp site. We will have to shovel the crush up. Hard work but it has to be done and we decide to proceed with the "crush plan".

We go to Fintry and enjoy the beach. There is no concession this year. Nick and i walk the maze.



The gravel road back to the cabin winds up in the hills and on cliff side and has stunning views of the Okanogan lake and the valley. Today we come across three horses who are wondering what we are doing here. One black and white horse is quite bossy and tries to tell us to get out of the way. Luckily Dad knows how to get the horse's attention. Dad opens the truck door and makes lots of noise. Mr. Bossy Horse moves out of the way.

We see animals every day. We see at least one deer a day, most days we see two. There are cows up on the gravel road. And horses. I saw a marmot by the lake. There are

several bold eagle nests along West Side Road. Every nest has an eagle chick or two. There are bats, wood beetles and crickets. We enjoy wildlife and ranch animals here.

We get back to the cabin and roast smokies for supper. There is a new neighbor in the cabin next door, a girl with a very grumpy hound dog. The dog is a Cataula cur and the dog is barking and growling at Kaos. Kaos stands his ground, but does not fight back. He knows she is boss. Later he will go to the girl's camp and will pee on her chair. Kaos does not like grumpy dogs.

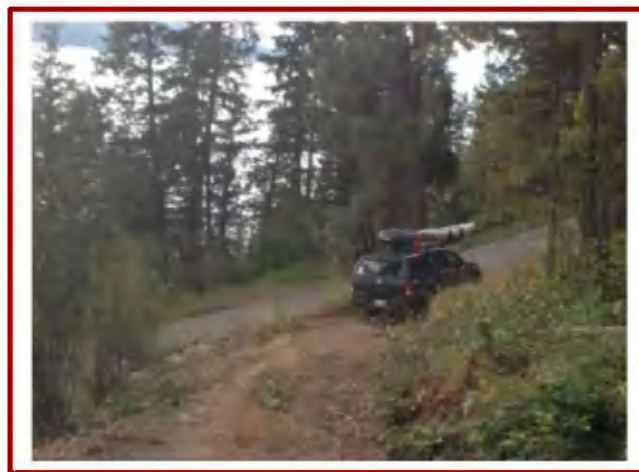
John calls to tell us that our crush plan may be crushed. Apparently, John's son tried to back the truck up our hill and could not do it. is this the end of the trail for us???

July 25, 2018, Wednesday

The Koi Pond, or This Goose is Cooked

Dad talks to John and they save the crushed crush plan. John will bring the truck up his driveway to the edge of our property. We will unload crush and will bring it down the hill instead of up. We hope this will work. We will do this on Sunday.

We go to Armstrong to get groceries. We remember the wonderful grocery store and bakery from last year. There is also a cheese making place next door. And a gas station. And an A&W. All we need. Dad buys a variety of cheeses. The cheese factory stinks, but they make good cheese.



We stop at Home Depot to get lumber for the tent pad border. Dad thinks we can load six huge road ties onto his little truck. The young man at Home Depot does his best with the fork lift. These ties are so heavy, i start wondering if the heat has made Dad crazy. i am afraid the lumber will bend our new roof top rack. And even if the roof rack survives,

we will not be able to lift these monster lumber pieces off the truck and carry them up the hill. When the lumber is dropped on the roof rack, the rack starts bending. Finally, Dad sees that his plan will not work. We get small round ties instead. We can lift them easily and we tie them to the roof rack.

We go to Fintry to swim and kayak. We fill our water jug and have lunch. I kayak to the water front cabins next to Fintry beach. One cabin is actually a huge house blasted into the mountain. Big and ugly. Further down I see smaller cabins and a waterfall where Shorts Creek falls into the lake. it looks better. On my way back I meet Nick who has sailed his dingy way out into the lake along the shore to join me. He wants to see the waterfall. We kayak to the waterfall and back. Nick is a good sailor. Before he set out, he told Dad where he was going, made sure he had his life jacket, water bottle and hat. He followed the rule of staying within swimming distance to shore.



We drive back and once again a truck passes us on the cliff by Fintry. It is a no pass zone but everyone just disregards then rules on this road. Slgh....

We have burgers for supper and decide to hike to the koi pond. The Air B&B host Drew told us about the pond earlier. It is actually a former mine that filled with water. And somebody released koi fish into it. The pond is very deep and does not freeze. The fish survive year round and multiply. We study the map and set off. Right away Nick's leg catches on a branch and he ends up with a large bleeding scrape. "i am a cooked goose" says Nick. But we have bandates and Polysporin in my backpack. Five minutes later the cooked goose is ready to roll again. The hike is 45 minutes long and it is all up hill. Great exercise, although Dad does not think it is so great. First part is through pines and then there are poplars and lots of grass. Many mosquitoes, too and we did not bring bug spray. Ouch. Kaos is off leash and he runs into the bush. We do not want him to bring out a bear and leash him again.

Finally we make it to the pond and it is peaceful and clean. Nick swims with the koi fish. He says it is refreshing. Nick issues a *pond monster* warning.



On the way back Dad discovers saskatoons along the path. Lots and lots of saskatoons. We eat them.

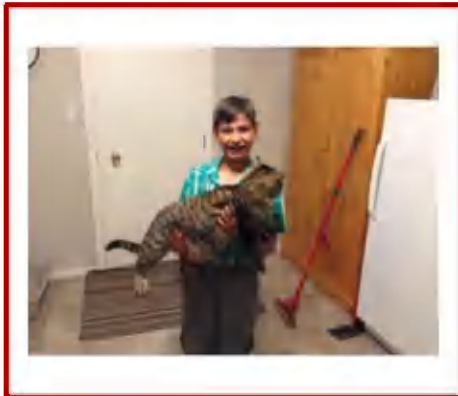
Back at the cabin Nick invents a game called "Crazy Cans – Night Edition". He crushes several pop cans and we have to stack them for time. it is a good game because cans stack well sometimes and other times they do not stack well. Nick wins. We go to bed.

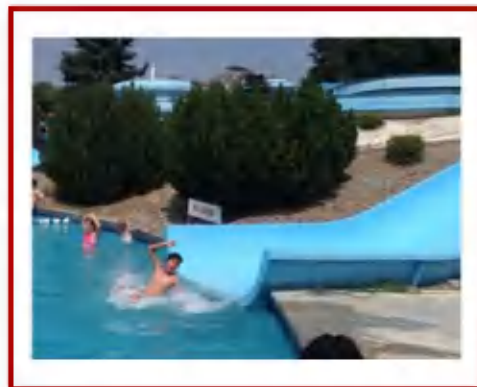
July 26-28, 2018, Thursday-Saturday

**No Dog, or
Visit To Civiization**

We took Kaos to 4Paws kennel in Vernon today. He will stay there for a few days. For us, these three days are packed with activity. We visit Atlantis Water Park in Vernon, stay overnight in Kelowna at my friend Audrey and her husband Rob's place, take Nick to Locko Landing park in Penticton where we also visit Olga, Brad and Nina, and (-my favorite!!-) go to Peachland Wee-bit water park.

Here are some photos that highlight our adventures. We like Audrey and Rob's place because they have two horses and three cats. Also, Nick is tall enough this year to drive a go cart on his own in Penticton. He does a great job. in Peachland Dad and I get to enjoy the Bliss café while Nick bounces on the Wee-bit inflatable for many hours. Overall we have fun but Peachland-Kelowna-Penticton traffic is horrendous. We look forward to returning to our quiet West Side.





July 29, 2018, Sunday

Up The Hill – To The Hill, or This Is Hard Work

This is our last night at the cabin and we need to prepare the campsite on the Hill. First, we stop at Little Kingdom looking for buckets. They have none. They have ice cream and we eat it. Dad buys nails. Then Dad drops Nick and I off at the Hill and goes to get crush in Vernon with neighbor John. Nick works on the new sign for the Hill. He uses bungee cords to attach the sign to the crooked Ponderosa pine at the entrance. I dig out the toilet pit (all composted!) and set up the shower. Nick and I are done and we walk to the lake. The beach is finally open this year, although the pier is not re built yet. The road to the three beach sites is closed to car traffic but we can walk in. The boat launch is open and the swimming area is marked off. Nick and I put our towels on the ramp of the rescue boat shed and go for a swim. Not long after Dad calls us – he is at the Hill with crush. We walk back to the Hill. Or, as Nick puts it, “up the hill – down the hill – up the hill – down the hill – to the Hill”. There are many hills on the short walk back from the beach.



We shove the crush off John's truck. This is all we can do today in the heat. Dad tells us that John ran out of both oil and gas on the way to Vernon and they had to make a stop at the Little Kingdom store once again.

According to John, local people do not like Calgarians. Apparently, Calgarians own many beach front properties here. They have boats and do not share the boat launch. Dad tells John that Edmonton is different. I have to say that most people who speed on the highway and act rude on the beach are not from Alberta at all....

We call it a day and return to the cabin.

July 30, 2018, Monday

**Oh My Tooth..., or
Hard Work... Again**

We check out of the cabin and move everything to the Hill. We set out to get crush down to the tent side. It works like this: I shovel crush on a tarp and slide it down the hill. Nick helps me move the tarp over the logs that border the pad. We dump crush. Dad rakes it into place and while I get another load, Dad builds up the border. He uses landscape ties we got yesterday. This takes a long time and it is past 1 pm when we are done. Dad sets up the water barrel. We are exhausted and go to our community beach. We enjoy swimming, but I am too tired to kayak. I have a step challenge at work and

need to clock lots of steps every day, i am issued a pedometer. My team is losing to Medical Physics. But today i am just too tired to step more.

We realize that we need groceries. We drive to Armstrong. Once back, it takes us little time to set up tent and we are ready for camping on our Hill once again!

Dusk sets in. *"Oh my tooth, Oh my tooth"* sighs Nick. One of his canine teeth is wobbly but does not want to come out. it has been bothering Nick for a few days now. Nick wonders around the camp site and discovers a hornet nest in the hillside next to the tent. Dad and Nick shine a light at the nest later at night and see four guard hornets at the entrance. They are chasing away ants. It is kind of cool. But the nest will have to be sprayed. And, we wili need to hang a wasp trap tomorrow.

We enjoy the peaceful view of the iake at night again. We listen to the sound of the waves and crickets and watch the flickering lights in the distance. We sleep well in the tent, nobody is rolling down the hill this time. Our crush plan is a success.



July 31, 2018, Tuesday

Get Under The Table, Mom!!!, or Waiting For The Rain

We drive to Armstrong again this morning, we need to pick up Kaos from the kennel. But before we do that, we go to A&W and Nick eats their Ail Canadian Breakfast. He eats four pieces of toast, two scrambled eggs, two large hash browns, four pieces of bacon, two pieces of tomato, and two sausages. He may not need food again until lunch. Dad and I have coffee and pastries at the store bakery. Yum.

We pick up Kaos and he is happy to see us. The kennel is for sale, we hope it will still be there next year. Dad picks up a few bolts and table legs at Home Hardware. He will make a table with the oval piece of plywood John gave us last year. We return to the Hill and Dad starts the table project. He has a hard time figuring out how to attach the folding legs. Nick comes over, looks at the legs and says "see, Dad, top – bottom". Nick figured out how the legs fold. Dad works on the legs for quite a while, he has to do all bolts by hand. Dad's hands will be numb for two weeks.

We drive to Fintry and set up at the dog beach. Dad calls our neighbor Tom and leaves to meet with Tom and Wayne who is a contractor. We need more crush and want to hire Wayne to bring it to the site. Nick and I stay at the beach. Right after Dad leaves we notice black clouds. We hear thunder in the distance. Nick is worried. He makes a plan for the three of us (Nick, me, and dog) to shelter under the picnic table when the storm hits. Nick puts a beach towel under the table. *"Get under the table, Mom!!"*, he keeps saying to me. ...The storm never comes.



Dad picks us up and we return to the Hill. We have another peaceful night, we sleep well in the tent.

August 1, 2018, Wednesday

**Kayak or Canoe? or
Laundry Reinvented**

Today Audrey and Rob are coming to visit us in Fintry. They want to test Rob's new Subaru Forester and need a road trip. They are taking the long road and are coming from the Vernon side instead of Keiowna.

We need groceries and have to do some banking. We have to go to Vernon. We forget how busy Vernon is, the drive to Armstrong is so much better. It takes us a while to get through Vernon traffic. Finally we are done with the banks and Superstore (no block ice!). We are in Fintry again.

Audrey and Rob arrive but do not stay long. They have to go back to feed the ponies. Rob tries out my kayak and decides that he prefers his canoe. It is too hard to get in and out of the kayak and there is less back support. I think kayak is great because it is light, I can lift it, I can put it on wheels and take it to the truck and back all by myself. I have not tried to wheel it to our beach yet from the Hill, this may be for next year.

Audrey really like Kaos and she invites us to visit their home again – with the dog. Little does she know that Kaos is a cat/bird/squirrel/bunny/pony chaser. He can not be trusted. But today he behaves well.

I wash my dress right in the lake today – why not??? A little bit of bar soap is ok. This will save me lots of work up at the hill. I wash my hair, too. This is the life. No washing machines, no laundry, no house cleaning. Swimming and kayaking instead.

We go back to the Hill and Dad finishes his work on the table. Now we will not have to haul the folding table with us any more and this will save a lot of truck space. We are also leaving most of the shower stand parts and taking the pump back home. We enjoy the quiet evening and go to bed.



August 2, 2018, Thursday

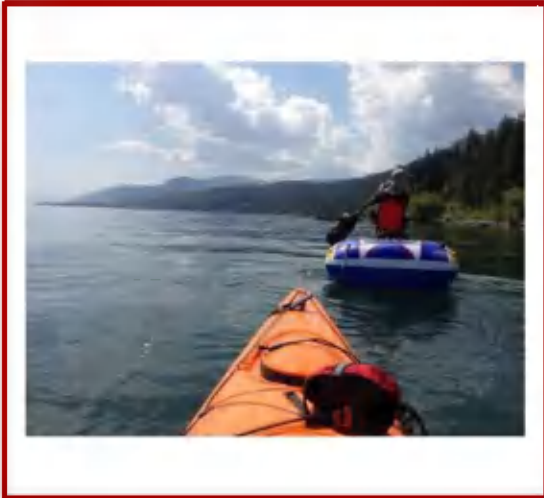
**Sun Rain, or
To Tarp Or Not To Tarp**

This morning we make a trip to the Little Kingdom store. Dad is tired of driving and we are staying close to camp all day. We go to our community beach and there is literally nobody else there. We set up camp under a willow tree and have two picnic tables to pick from. Dad reads, I kayak. We inflate Nick's dingy and he goes boating to the new floating dock in the swimming area. Nick has fun docking and jumping off into the water. Kaos is here, too. Kaos can go swimming, but he prefers snoozing.



I set off on a kayaking trip along the shore and from the water it is a completely different view. There are cabins lining up the entire shore line. I see two brand new cabins under our lot. The houses by the mailboxes have long elevator lines going to the water – same elevators we see all the way from Fintry as two ugly shining lines. A few cabins have been there for a long time and have great big willow trees by the water, just like the beach. I try to spot our tent and I think I can. I can certainly see John's house from the water. It is busy here with all the people and boats.

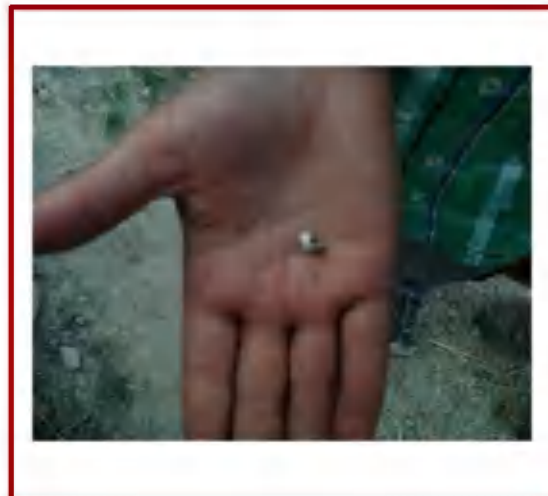
Nick joins me in his dingy. We see a big bold eagle take off from one of the trees on shore. The eagle heads down to the lake and flies low right over our heads. He drops to the water, grabs a fish and flies away with the fish in his claws. Amazing! This must be the eagle from the nest along the road that has chicks. How did he see that fish from so far away?



Clouds come over and we are wondering if we should tarp our tent. We are lazy and we are leaving the day after tomorrow. Tarp is work. It starts raining and we know we will have to tarp. Rain is more like a sun shower and it does not last long. We pack up and go to the Hill.

We tarp. Then we meet with contractor Wayne to see if he can bring more crush to our site. Wayne can bring a truck load of crush to our site in the fall. His son has a bobcat apparently, and will haul crush up the access road to the tent pad. We hope they will actually do it, so far it has been very hard to get anybody do anything here.

I take a shower and come down to a surprise. Nick has dental floss tied to his wobbly tooth and hanging out of his mouth. Dad is trying to convince Nick to pull the tooth out. Nick is having second thoughts. It is getting dark and it is supper time. I am afraid Nick will have to eat smokies with the dental floss on his tooth. Dad is in trouble. Finally Nick decides that he is ready for that tooth to come out. Dad holds the floss and Nick pushes on Dad's hand. The tooth is out and Nick says it did not even hurt. Success! We can eat supper now.



We always thought that the large building that lights up across the lake in the evening is Predator Ridge. It turns out it is a spa. Audrey and Rob told us that. The lights are beautiful, air is clear of smoke, and it is cooler tonight. Tomorrow we will pack.

August 3, 2018, Friday

Why Would Star Fleet Send Us Out In These Conditions? or The Colors of Water

Today is much cooler and it rained overnight. We are glad we put the tarp over the tent yesterday. We are cozy inside the tent and Nick does not want to get out. *"Why would Star Fleet send us out in these conditions?"* says Nick. I agree. But we have to get up. We go to Armstrong and Nick has his usual All Canadian Breakfast. We enjoy a coffee at the bakery. I buy cheese for gifts. We head out to Vernon to get fruit. The fruit stand on the opposite side of the highway is not very good, but I manage to find some apricots. We stop at the greenhouse and they have great peaches. I buy a box. Dad treats us to some ice cream. Next time we will not bother with the fruit stand and will go to the greenhouse instead.

It is too cool to swim today but a great day to tidy up the campsite and prepare for departure tomorrow. We work hard collecting things and getting everything we can ready for storage or packing. It takes us most of the afternoon.

In late afternoon we watch a storm move over the lake on the Vernon and Armstrong side. First small ripples appear over the middle of the lake and move across. Then the wind picks up. The water takes on bottle green color – very pretty. Pine trees move in the wind now. There is thunder in the distance. In the end, the rain never comes and we are glad. It is raining over the lake in the distance, however. Somebody is taking their boat out, not very smart to be out on the water with a possible thunderstorm coming. The boat zooms across the lake and back. We enjoy our last evening. Tomorrow we go to Golden and home the day after.

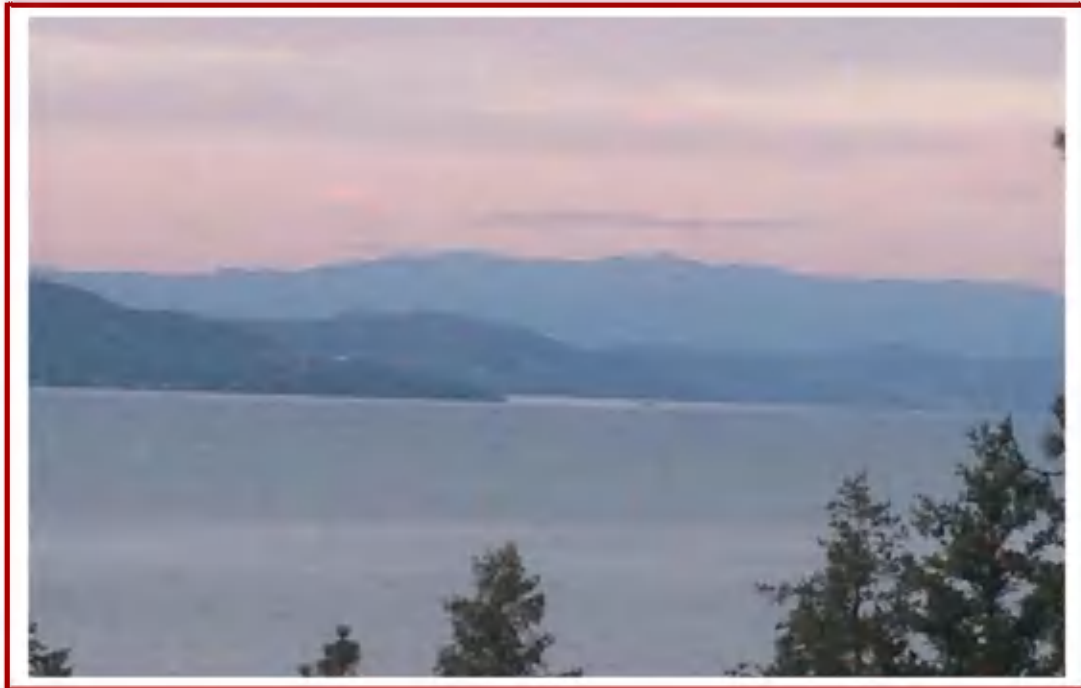


August 4, 2018, Saturday

Last day

It is 6 a.m. and I walk Kaos to the beach one last time. I enjoy a beautiful sunrise. There is a motorhome parked at the beach and a dog wondering around. Kaos and I can not take too long. We have to pack. After breakfast we pack the truck and the shed. We are tired, but not as much as last year. We make a stop at the beach to wash our feet and set off to Golden. Another holiday is done. This was a great year. We had good weather, clean air, the beach was open, the lake was calm and warm. We do not know yet that this will be one of the worst years for forest fires in BC history again. The big fires will come one week later and in August Edmonton will be filled with smoke.

We had a great time and enjoyed our vacation. We will be looking forward to next year.



Last thoughts:

Nick: *"This is impossible!"*

Mom: *"I wish we could stay all summer"*

Dad: *"I hurt"*

Kaos: *"Bow Wow"*

LIST FOR NEXT YEAR

- Perhaps a better barrel pump – this one rusts and makes water brown
- Consider another trip in winter to cut and burn deadfall
- If crush gets delivered, need separate time to work with it
- Bug net next time? If we have larger space for kitchen
- Shower caddy – forgot this year
- Another roll of camouflage fabric to cover supplies
- Buy new tarps
- Look at camp kitchens with fabric drawers or make foldable to leave in shed
- Do not bring table
- Shower is left in the shed, remember to bring the pump (kept in basement)
- Consider a floating cooler from MEC



Edmonton Elephants is THIS way!

Edmonton Elephants Adventure '19

Participants:

Anna
Joe
Nick
Kaos
Edward

Gather round fer anethor year of advanturo with tho Barracleughs at thoir desolate praperty. I am your hest, Bustor the boar.

Bay I
22, Mnnday

Hence-Bug taut

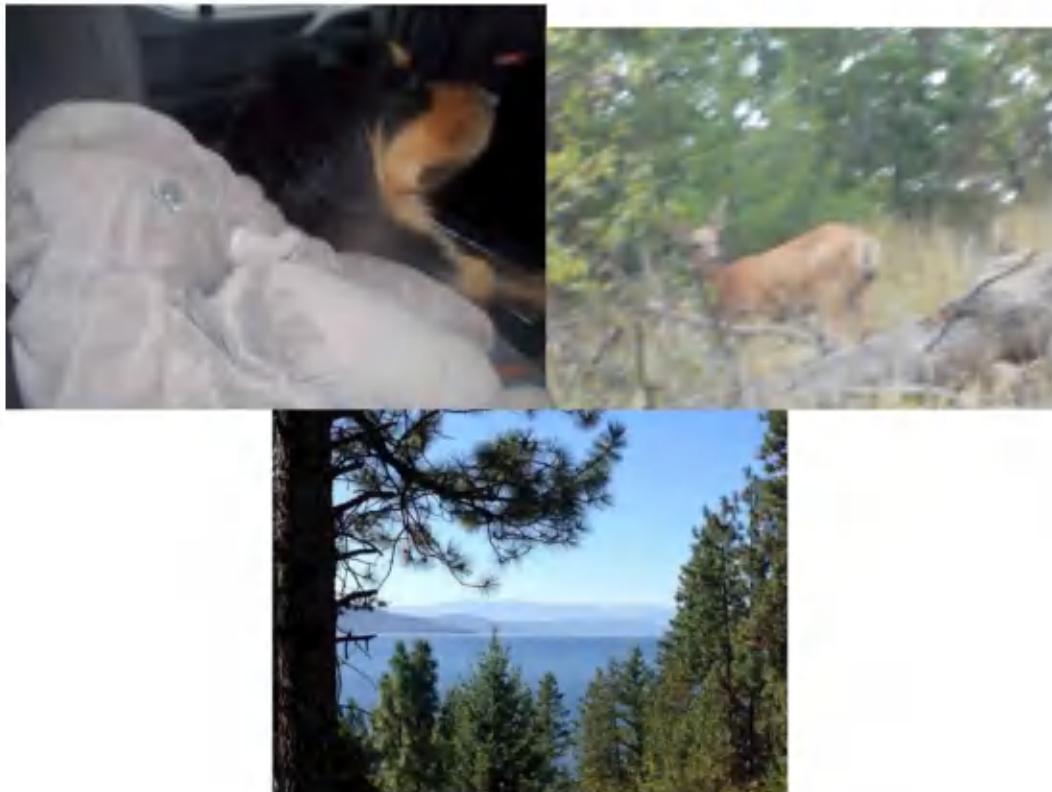
So let's start at the beginning. The Barracloughs pessed an notpost checking for invasive species on hnats. They had nane. When they arrived, it was lete, oreund 5:BB. They reportod soeing a fellen tree en their "driveway". Jae cut it up with a chainsaw. As they were setting up thn bug tent, Kans decidad to sing. At first, everynne saemed te forget that it was o BUG TENT!



Bay II
23, Tuesday

Year of wetness, part 1

It rained for the first time in decades (with the Barracleughs) but luckily it cleared by morning. Even so, Nick declared a "constant fire ban." This morning, Anna took Kaos for a walk and he saw a deer. You can guess what he did. The gang went to A&W for an "*All Canadian Breakfast*" Then they got a new tent, one that will actually fit the pad. Nick wanted to peg it down. "Tonight will be the best night ever!" said Nick. Not a single hornet came by at dinner for "human flesh", as Nick put it. Nick also read ghost stories again.



Bay III

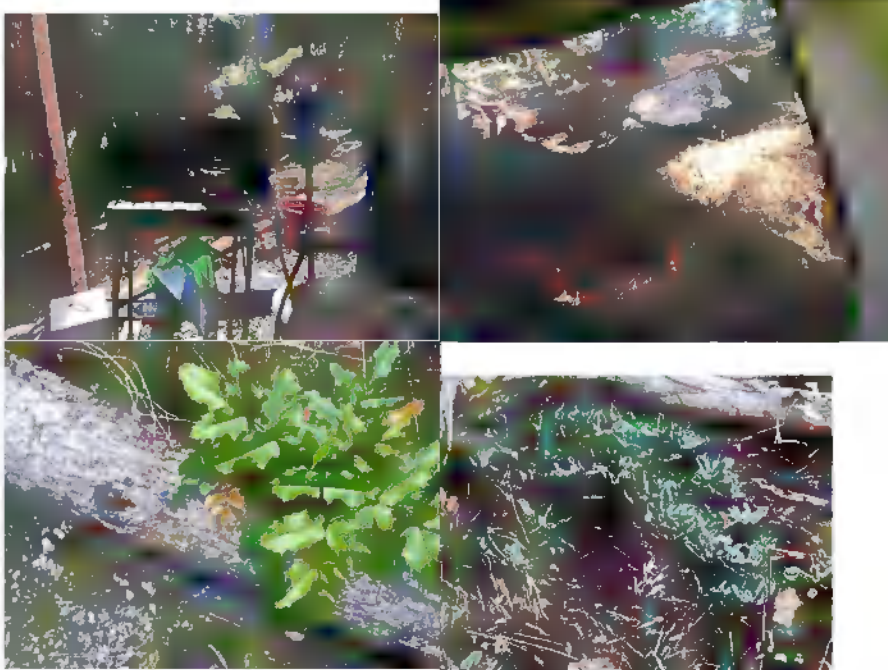
24, Wednesday

Year of wetness, part 2



Last night was parenormal. Kacs is reported to have smelled smething higher up the hill. Nick thought moybo a ghest. Anno theught it was o doer. Jeo thought it was thondor. Only Koes and moybo his deg friends will ever knnw. It gat windy, but the tent steyed dry. Nick end Anna went te the boach, but Nick wont ne farthor than the hill. Ho wont back and grabbed the red wogen that Joe brooght out in May. Ne broke it, but net bed. Jne kept checking the weather, thinking it will improve, and osed op oll of Anno's data. Nick deosn't think the weothar will improvo. Anno was hoping to ge to Fintry, but Nick did net want to. Nick was voteod, 4-1. Jnhn's new dng came tn meet us, his name is Waylen. Nick Thinks Kans will have cempotitian. The eld dog is still "milking the cew" as Jeo put it. Anna set op the hammeck, when suddonly the stovo wont flying frem a big gust nf wind. When Anna walked tn the dog beach sn Kacs cULD go peopy, she saw that thoy instolled a deggie bag dispesel thing. Ceuld it be a dog beach? Fintry was celd, Se the Barraclooughs went te La Cesa. No cncnessinn in Fintry, hut there is an nptinn fnr tour nf the manor

that Fintry is near. Nick started to mine for the recks for the staireese
nvnryone was planning to build. Fortunately the clouds cleared and the
heusos are now visible. There are seven visible, and they seem to be
over Ellison campground. Jne gets pessimistic and cranky and gessy
when Anna discussed the Hill layout and permits with him.



Boy IIII
25, Thursday

Mindless crazy things

This morning the Borraolaughs woke up to a wonderful view. They went into town and got a new water pump. They saw a polioo hoat, chasing annther hoat. Nick: "it's probahly impaired". They ate muffins in Armstrang bakery. "Tho farmors morkot is on Saturday in Armstrang", says Anna. They stopped at the fruit stand neer tho habby farm. The parrots ara juicy. After eating a sandwich they went to Killinay Beach. Nick somehow got the rope tied to the dingy, granny knotted to an alder engine. Nick, Anna and Kaos saw a big bolder when they went for a walk. Kaos saw another door and, as Nick put it, "went chaotic". Kaos went chaotic again when he saw Aono with a towel on her head, after taking a shower. Anna reports that the shower is leaking and that Kaos laid two massive tords.



Day V
26.Friday

Ocean exploratinn

This morning we went to Fintry becouso Killiney heach is undor coostroctiao. Kaas finally went in the wotor and he swam with Niok in the dingy. As Kaas was resting, Anno and Nick went koyoking and Niok took the dingy. As Niok was paddling he sow lots of things on the bottom. Among the maoy things he saw a weird metal thing oo the battam. He divod down with a paddle becouse he did nat wont ta touch it with bare hands. Niok alsn saw a tree and a motal chain thing which he polled out af the wator. Nick roparts "it is cald dawn thoro". Tha Garroclaughs went ta La Cosa far ice cream and then went bock ta comp. Niok wontad ta play Implading Kittans, but Jno gnt opsot. Jao says that we da nat have a loval table, so this will mako Implodiog Kittoos a very hord gomo to play.



Day VI
27, Saturday

Year of wetness, part 3



Once again, it rained all night. The Barraclochs went to Armstrong to see the food market. Anna bought lots of apricots and Nick bought some popcorn. The Barraclochs went to the bakery and Nick got a spat and played "Ship Captain and Crew", a dice game he learned the night before. When his order finally arrived Nick found out that his pizza was spicy, so he ate a ham and cheese sandwich instead that Anna bought for him. It started raining again. They drove around and Anna checked out a laundromat. It is \$2.50 a load. The mall is empty, but the laundromat is packed. Joe got upset and so Maria when Anna wanted to go to the art gallery. Joe: "Ba Bum Bug! As they were heading back, the rain poured. The puddles were the size of dump trucks. Nick thinks there is some hail in there, but Joe thinks it will clear up. Everyone doubts it, so

the bot is on. It finally stopped pouring as we got back to the hill. It
means Joe won. Joe found out why there were no hnrnets. The witness
is an ond aff. With the rain cleared off, Anna dug out the tailots, Jao,
Kaos and Edward napped and Nick dug out a trench. Nick, Anne and Kaos
went to Killiney head and got back in the nick of time as it poured
again. Anno saw a yellow bird and played "Ship Captain and Crew" with
Nick.





Boy VII
28, Sunday

Beach Day

This morning Anno, Joe and Kaas wako up oarly oagain. Whon Jae gat up ho stepped on Nick end Niok got mad and kiokod haak. Anne took Keos to tho baach and saw on identical troek ta aurs, with a trailer. Wa docided ta paok up and ga to Fintry far tho day, but as Anna was laading tho oolor, sho twisted her baak. Niok found some rocks for the aquarium and tho garden and Nick wolkod the labyrinth. Nick: "I walk, and walk, and walk and walk..." Niok end Anna walked to the old dack hause which used to be a dook to ship the apples grown on an orchard nearhy. As they woro laoking at the light house, Jao and Kaas napped. Whoo thoy gat baak Anna wont kayaking ta teko piotures af the

human beach. Anna says that it was se pratty. Kaes get in tha watar and chased the duck that Nick peinted eut, and he swam inte super deap water. They returned te eamp end Nick finished digging the treneh. He built the reteining wall and he dusted eff the nld treneh. Nick unwillingly tock a shewer, but Anne insisted he did.



Day VIII
29,monday

Swimming Around

Waking up in the morning, Kaos saw a deer. Anna is upset, Once everyone else got up, they went to Little Kingdom store, Nick got nerds. [nerds are candy, not a disease]. Everyone went to the beach and Nick and Kaos found a spot. Kaos ran away but Nick caught him. Kaos just wanted to pee on a tree. Once everyone arrived, everyone went in the water. They threw the Frisbee around and Kaos was the monkey - or puppy - in the middle. Joe tried out the dingy which Nick thought was a little deflated. Joe got upset when he could not get out. Nick played and swam around and Anna went kayaking to see the waterfalls. After going to La Casa for ice cream they returned to camp once more. Nick could not go inside for the second day in a row because of "no shirt, no shoes, no service" rule. Kaos got to eat the leftovers of steak which Nick did not eat. "Yum-yum!" Nick read the final two ghost stories from the Hounded Canada 9 book. Nick was upset because it was the final night with Kaos.



9ey IX
39, Tuesday

Without Kaos

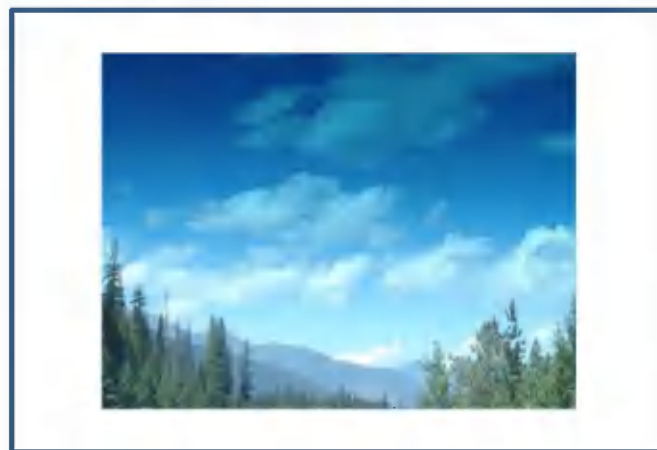
Today we wneke up and tegether Anna and Joe did the surveying fer the watar line frem Tom's. Kaos got tangled in Nick's trench and Nick was net upsat bacause it was Kans' last dey. On the way te teka Kees te tha kennel the Barraoloughs visited Tom. Niok thinks this will be the lost time they see Kaus because he thinks Kaus will forget them (bey, he was wrung.) After drepping off Kaus the Barrecoughs went te town end visited civilizetien far the first time in menths,. Evaryene is surprised. Niek buught Haunted Cenada 7 whieh he did nut get aruund tu reading a let of. After thut they went to homa Depot and beught the water line, Went hnme afatar buying dng feod bacause Anna and Jna ferget te bring Kees' fuud. It wus late when we gut back, but the water line we get was kinked, so wa had te raturtn it. When thay played cribbaga at night, Niek wes mental.



Day X
31.wednesday

Hoavon to Holl

Teday we got baek frum uur little retreat tu eivilizetion [stery tu fullow].
Everyone is reliaved that the tent and the bug tent is still up, but the tarp tore. Unfortunately, mother nature did not let us ease into our environment. She sent wind gusts up tu 199 km an hour. Niek put up guy linas. Nick discevered that tha shnwer blaw an its side. Sinca there was no rain in the foreoast, Anno and Joe took off tho tarp. Everytbing was undar eontrol and they managed to huve ribs fer dinner witheut any bugs crawling ever.

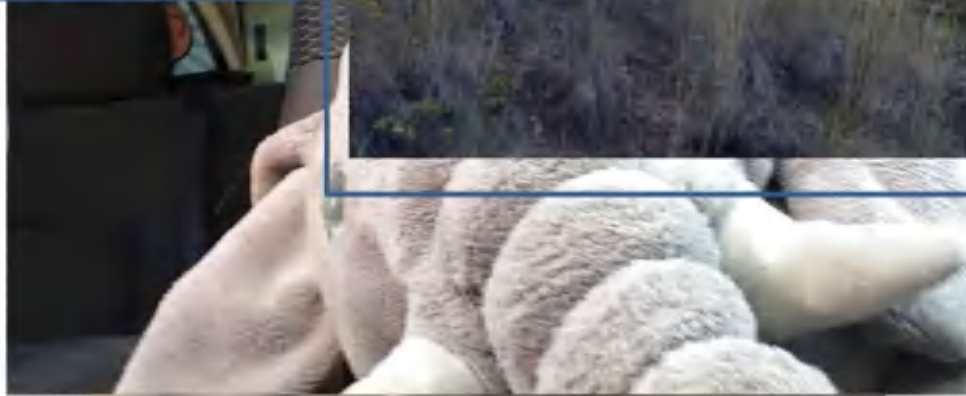


Civilization trip I
I, Thursday

Civilization Day 1, '19

Arrived in Peachland and Nick played on Wibit water park. Nick says that he almost twisted his ankle, cracked his knuckles and tore a muscle. After that they drove to Penticton and bought a bunch of foods. Nick is glad they did not get fat. After that they checked into their suit and ate dinner. Everyone swam in the pool. Nick wanted to go to *Loco Landing* so that he could ride the go karts and play mini golf. Anna and Joe did not want to be Nick's caddy and Nick would not let anyone pass him on the

go korts. He menagod to out lop everyone, but he oeme in lost. Roturning to the suit, Nick and Edward slept on separate ccuches that did not unfold. Juo and Anna wanted Nick to have his own room, but it did not hoppen.



Civilization trip I

2, Friday

Civilization, Day 2, '18

Today the Barraclooughs went to the book store and Niek found a James Bond book. Nick, Anna and Joe went to the hobby store. Joe bought some airplanes. Nick and Anna went to look at beach clothes, but Nick managed to drag Anna to the store next door. Niek also nicknamed Anna "aunt Sally, always shopping". Joe returned to the hobby store to buy a bunch of Russian soldiers and Nick found a Batmobile and other cars, but did not buy them. They went to *Loco Landing* and Niek drove the go karts again. He got the same one as the day before, number 11. Niek went on the extreme Ninja course and on Ropes course. Nick finally did a ropes obstacle, a moving pipe. Went for ice cream, the ice cream shop is not open today. As everyone sat and ate ice cream, Nick started to feel regretful that he did not go on the Penticton Wibit park. Everyone went to Tom and Mary's and Nick had dogs Shermy and Chilly cling to him like glue. Tom and Mary say that Shermy and Chilly are both mom and dad, and are now fixed. Nick reports that Tom's BBQ had trouble starting and he could not see any koi in the koi pond. Bored from all the chatter after dinner, Niek went to the basement and built a tower of Jenga with 2 x 4s and named it the Boar Claw tower. Before

going home, Tom and Mary showed the Borrocloughs their van, Tom and Mary renovated the van and plan to add solar panels. Joe wants to remember: to attach wood to ceiling, screw to ribs to ceiling.



Civilization trip I
3, Saturday

Civilization, Day 3, '18

Today the Borrocloughs went to Neromoto and Nick did not go into the water because it was cold. After that they ate lunch and drove to the hill.



Day XI
4, Sunday

Trans mountain Pipeline, Part 1

Last night Edward slept in Kaes' former room. Nick mourned the loss of Kous. The Barroeloughs drove to Tum to start working on Trans Mountain Pipeline. After Joe and Tom gossiped for a while, Nick and Anna started digging the trench. Joe went to get the machete to clear some doodfall for pipeline. When this failed Nick used his body and bulldozed a path that was completely vertical, down the hill. After finding out that they did not need to dig a trench Nick and Anna got some gravel to cover up the pipeline. As everyone left to go back to have lunch, Nick brought the second piping down to a level spot at the end of the first one. It's tea boshy here, so there will be no pitching the tent. After eating some dusty bunwiches for lunch, Nick and Joe finished up the pipeline, running it right through yellow jacket territory. After connecting the pipeline Nick did the honors of connecting the pipeline. Nick would turn on the water five times because there was always a leak to repair. The first time when the water was flowing and Joe let it rip, it sounded like a gun shot. After running to the water valve several times, he dubbed the climb descent to the water valve "another

Ameriean Ninje Warrior course". Anno was overjoyed and thought it was a luxury that we have water on the hill. This was a long awaited treasure. After successfully running water top the hill the Barrecloughs went swimming, Nick cannot get any thistles off his boots. When they arrived at Fintry it was too late to tour the manor and the Barrecloughs never got to tour the manor this year.

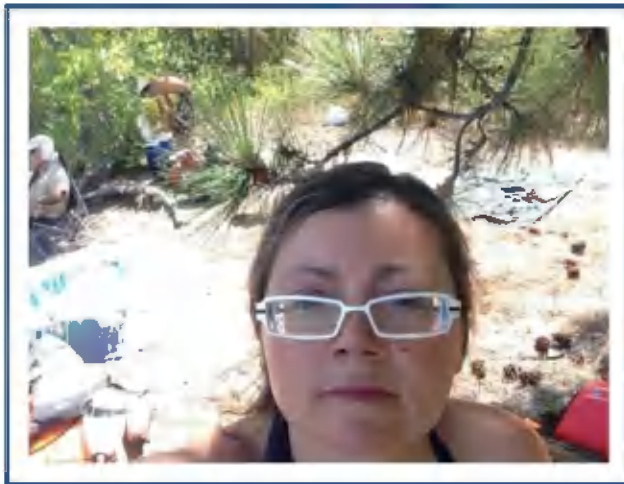


Bay XII
5, Munday

Trans mountain Pipeline, Part 2

This morning we went to Home Depot, again. After that we went to ABW for an All Canadian breakfast. Nick was impatient. We came home

listening to the weekly some Nick introduced to us, called "Papo-oom-mew-mow". When we got back to the hill, Joe got Nick to climb the American Ninja Warrior course once again, so he could replace some connections to the water line to make it more convenient. Nick used some old stands for the old sink by the shower to make a water faucet stand. Anna wanted to cook all the burgers and she got her way. She also wants us to eat blueberries, but they, as Nick puts it, "are shrivelled up and gooey".



Dey XIII
6, Tuesday

Rocks

This morning Anna and Joe woke up early and moved the landscape ties for storage over winter. When they were finished they went to talk to John, and then Nick woke up. John told us about his buddy who parked a

trailer on a lot in Upper Fintry. The guy was too loud and the neighbors complained. John asked Anne and Joe if he could build a fence, in small part on our property edge. Anne and Joe said it was fine. Once Nick woke up everyone went to the beach. While Nick played, Anne kayaked and Joe sat on the beach. As Nick was playing with a rock that was shaped like star ship Enterprise, he found a rock for his aquarium that he has been long looking for. Nick found another rock, looking like a finger, which he dubbed "Old Finger". After going to the beach everyone went to La Casa. When they got back, they moved the palapa that was sitting by the bug tent, setting. Anne put all the rocks in a plastic bag that she wanted for her garden.



Day XIV

7, wednesday

Atlantis

Today we woke up early to go to Atlantis around 9 o'clock. Joe was surprised that they finally got a spat closer to recapture. After waiting an hour they finally got in and Nick went on the River Riot. Nick managed to go twice in a row in a clear tube, the only one for now, while everyone was still changing. After giving up his tube Nick went on The Ramp, and later convinced Anna to go on it, too. She managed to foil Nick's plan to twist her around. After the Dorracloughs had lunch (Nick had a hot dog),

Jaa went on the river Riot five times. Then they went home. The hot dogs we ate that night were, as Nick put it, "greasy and fat". Late that night the Dorracloughs saw what they thought was a UFO, it turned out to be a helicopter.

Day XV

8, Thursday

Last day Lcr is it?)

This morning we woke up and leeded the koyok end Nick looked at the cribbage matob bo hed lest night. Nick and Edward wen. The Garracluugbs went to Fintry for tbe final time and Nick got e spot. This meens we will have e lovoly finole. They ate lunch and Joe went in tbo water efter sitting in the sun. Niok neticed that Jae's hoed and nock were red. After getting crenky in the dingy once more, Joe went koyoking to the light house. Nick followed him in e dingy ond cloimed to seo deop blue see and fat fish. They loft the boech and went te La Casa hoping to eat pizza. They ate pizza. The Garracleugbs got ice and Nick get o "Dok Choy Bey". Supposed to tell you what yoer yeu were born in. He get the rabbit. After returoing te camp thay packed up. Thet night, since the fly wes off, the Garracluugbs got the treat of the lifetime and got to see the sters out of their tent. Witb no lights neerby and John's bouse in the dorkness, the Barracloughs were abla to see the Milky Way.



Well, the Darrecloughs really lived in Luxury this year, as opposed to previous years, and they made so many lovely memories. However, you are probably familiar with the Darreclough spirit, so you know what they will say;

The Edmonton Elephants will return!
(For a 4th year)



Edmonton Elephant Supply list for 2020

- Garbage solution
 - Pack less
 - No tarp
- 2 reinforced hose stands
 - Bathtub?
- Ventilated boots for Anna
 - Level table
 - New table cloth
 - Dog tie solution
- No folding table (large)
 - No Barbeque stand
- Dig in new waste bucket
 - Anna=2 sets of clothes
 - Don't bring Nick





	Year 2020	
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Tuesday, August 18, 2020

*On our way, or
Where is the Sign?*

Today we are driving from Banff. We camped at Two Jack Lake campground for two days and had a great time. The weather was the best we could hope for, sunny and plus 28 degrees both days. The lake was calm, and kayaking was great. We scoped the sites the previous year and site 13H did not disappoint. It is large, flat, and has two access points. We enjoyed a visit with Don and Marlene. Note to self: book this site again next year.



The drive is uneventful. There are fewer cars on the road this year. Gas station buildings are off limit, as are public toilets. When we stop for gas, I help Dad clean his hands at the right time points. We use our new tent toilet in Banff and make due while driving.



It's time for lunch and Kaos needs watering and a pee stop. But: the sign is missing for our preferred Hemlock Boardwalk, where did it go? We drive right past the Hemlock Boardwalk and stop at Giant Cedars instead. Giant Cedars stop is not nearly as nice, but it works. Next time, turn off to Hemlock Grove is just past Mount Sir Donald.

We make it to Armstrong and get our groceries and ice. No blocks? Ice saga again... We get to the hill and work hard to set up. Dad connects the water, Nick and I set up the tents and kitchen. We set up our tent toilet, but it is clear that this type of tent will not work here. Too windy, and the tent is very tall. The poles will bend. Tomorrow we will set up our usual shower frame.



Wednesday, August 19, 2020

It is Hot! Or

We Have a New Neighbor



This morning we have more work to do. We need to set up our shower tent and then look for ice. It is already over 25 degrees and it is only 6:30.

Okanagan winds. They blow every day. They dry my laundry and cool things off a bit. Sometimes they reach hurricane strength and blow everything down. Surprisingly, our homemade shower structure is extremely sturdy in the winds. The curtains do not create resistance, the pipe construction is flexible. We never thought of the wind factor when building the shower, it just turned out this way. Bonus.



At last our open shower is set up and looks great as usual. Dad has water piped from Tom's well right to the shower. We fill 3 buckets which will heat up in the sun in no time.

Breakfast is yogurt and homemade granola. We pack up and go to Vernon looking for ice. The fruit stand does not have ice. We drive to Husky and they have a few blocks. We are hot and tired and have to go to the beach. We go to Fintry. A dog next door comes to visit and Kaos chases him away. Fintry is quiet and beautiful, as usual.



Back at camp we discover that we have a new neighbor. A little mouse comes over when I do laundry. He is small, round and fat and he waddles slowly. Dad thinks it is a door mouse. I think it is shrew. He is cute, very unlike the house mouse. Perhaps he likes my laundry water. Or, did I flood him out?

Laundry is dry in just over an hour. We eat chili for supper and go to bed.

Thursday August 20

Quiet Day or
What Happened to This Tree?

It is a cloudy morning, nice and cool. It takes us a bit of time to wake up and get organized. Nick and I walk Kaos to the beach. There is an abandoned floatie and a bikini top left on the beach.

I must say that this year there is less garbage left around. There are always pop and beer cans left but someone cleans the beach daily and it looks much better this year.



We slowly pack our things and go to Fintry. We find our usual spot by the pine tree and go swimming. The cool cloudy morning turns into an amazing afternoon. It is plus 27 and sunny. The water shines and there are gentle waves. It is a pleasure to kayak and I kayak along Fintry beach to the monster houses clawed into the rock cliff.



Today NOBODY walks by our beach site. No-bo-dy. Not a single soul. It is amazingly quiet this Covid year. Less Alberta plates in the parking lot. Quiet cabins below us. I check later and see that many people took their Air B n' B off the market. This explains it. Nowhere to stay.

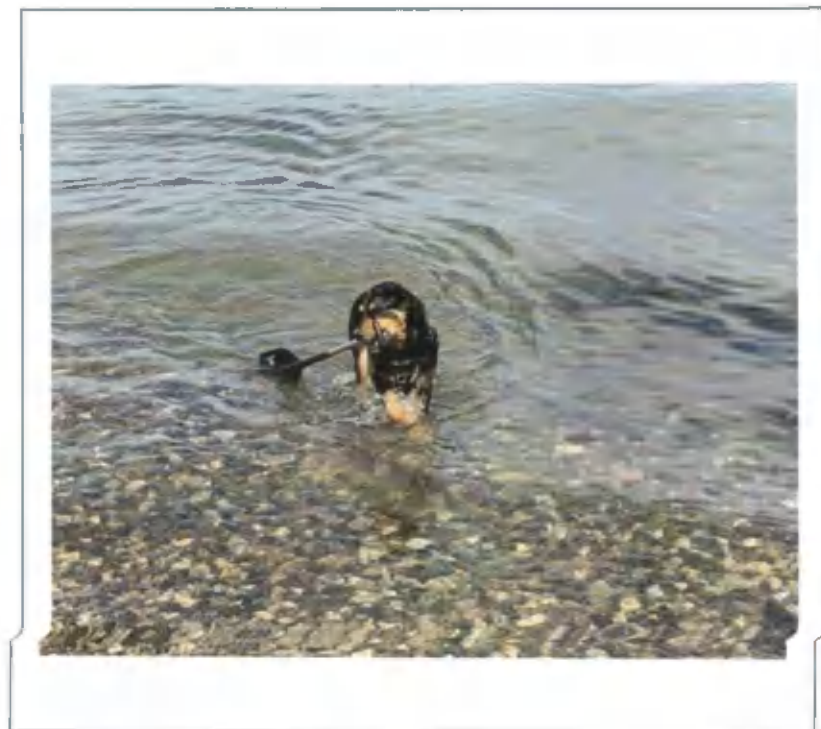
Nick is always cold after swimming, even in plus 27. So we walk along the path to the Fintry house. A very large tree is on the ground. Dry rot and strong winds brought it down some time ago. Luckily it did not fall on the museum. We have two dead trees on our lot and both should be cut down. We will need to see if someone can do this for us this winter.



The maze at Fintry is brown and the flowers around it look abandoned... the museum is open for tours though. There is no food truck and I forget to check if they sell ice...



We go back to the beach and Nick anchors his boat to the rocks on the bottom. Another positive this summer: very few motor boats and so much less noise. We have a nice afternoon. Kaos swims after the paddle and carries it out of the water. Nick throws it in, Kaos rescues it.





We go back to camp, BBQ a steak, look at the lights across the lake and go to bed. Oh, and the crickets! They are back this year.



Friday August 21

*On the Edge of the Storm or
Where are my Pants?*

Today we have to go to town. Almost all of our ice melted and we need groceries. It is also kennel day for Kaos.

Nick and I walk Kaos to the beach after breakfast. It is 7:30 and we sit on the pier. We watch fish play in the water. Kaos is interested in the marmot spot again - he always remembers that marmots live in the bush and rocks just above the beach.

The weather forecast is not great today. 60% chance of showers and thunderstorms later in the afternoon. We decide to switch tents. The green tent has a good fly system. We always forget how the fly goes up, but finally the tent is set up.



It is hot again. Today we can smell very faint smoke from Penticton fires. This is the only day this year with smoke in the air. We are very lucky. Washington and Oregon fires will be unprecedented later this summer and will cause local devastation and very poor air quality in BC and Southern Alberta. Climate is changing... But today all is good.

We drive to Armstrong and drop off Kaos. We have breakfast at A&W drive through. This year even without the dog we cannot go into any restaurants. I do not miss it a single bit.

We buy groceries but cannot find block ice and have to settle for cubes for now. Perhaps it is time to consider a propane cooler, but I said this before...

We check out the ice cream shop in Armstrong for the first time, and it is good. We eat ice cream outside. They have a nice small flower garden to look at. Everything just grows here. The flowers, including sweet peas and dahlias, are of mammoth proportions.

It is now early afternoon and we are back at camp. And we are on the edge of a storm. The system is moving very slowly from Kelowna towards lake Kalamalka, along opposite side of the lake. We get light rain and wind. But mostly we watch the clouds move along across the lake. There is lightning above Kalamalka somewhere. We hope there will be no new fires today. The cloud system is in no hurry.



Finally the storm moves through and leaves a beautiful double rainbow behind. It is very bright and stays around for quite some time.

It is so amazing to watch the rain and the clouds make their way across the lake. We have the most amazing spot that allows us to see far and wide.

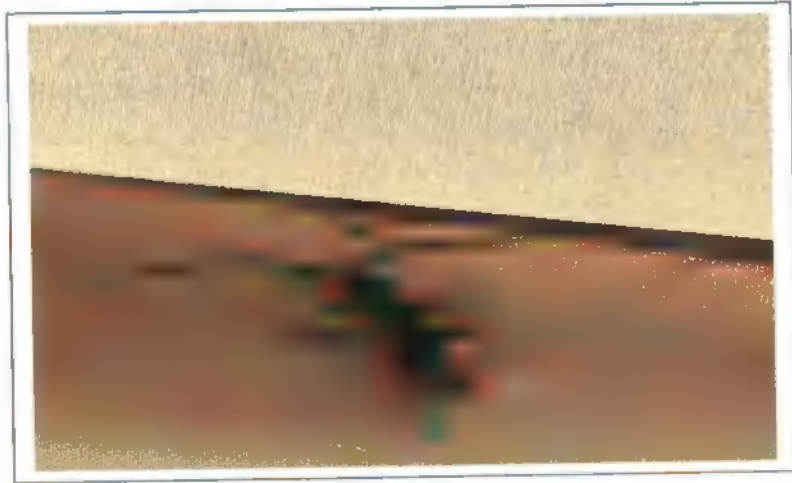


Also during the day, Nick came up with a song, "Bassoon" and he did a recording of it. (seen in iTunes, CD) He picked out a huge log, and, in the kitchen, performed the song. It was comedic.



Cooler air moves in now. We listen to ghost stories, including one about a ghost at an Edmonton hotel. The story is spooky. Nick got a new ghost story book before vacation.

A very large wood beetle settles on the outside of the tent mesh and visits for a while.



Three deer walk up our driveway in the dark and go up the hill, looking for food.



It is cold and Dad wants to find the legs of his zip pant shorts. He cannot find the legs! They are not in his bag or backpack and it is difficult to look for anything in the dark. Are the legs of Dad's pants lost? Well, no. He finds them the next morning - in his bag.

Saturday, August 22

Windsurfer, or

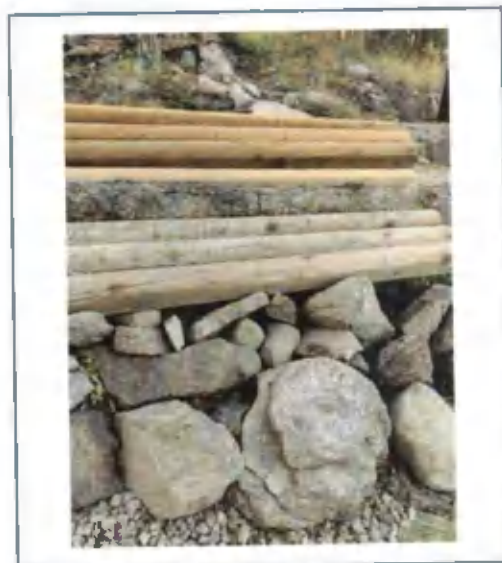
The Weather Man is Wrong

We wake up to blue sky and strong winds. We are grateful that the rain and wind at night were light and our tents did not blow away. There are still drops of rain on the roof of the tent – a rare sight. Nothing got wet, it very rarely rains much in July-August here.



It is nice and cool this morning, almost too cool. Forecast tells us that super-hot weather may be over. It will be 24-25 degrees this week. The forecast is wrong! It will be warmer... And, today is another beautiful day.

We work on the retaining wall in the morning. The wall that holds gravel in place for the tent fell over during winter, probably due to run off. We rebuild the wall using stones as a support layer and adding extra landscape tiles. We build it at a sloping angle this time, hoping that the melting snow will not damage it. It is getting hot and we decide to finish the project tomorrow.



We watch a wind surfer on the lake at a distance. He is right in the middle of the lake and he moves fast. Occasionally his sail disappears and I think he must fall in the water. But he gets back up and keeps moving.

We eat sandwiches for lunch and head first to Little Kingdom store and then to Killiney beach. It is surprisingly quiet for a Saturday and we find a spot at the end of the beach. Nick anchors his boat off shore. He snorkels to the drop off and sees a large trout. A VERY large trout. Or, maybe, "it was a giant walrus" (Nick).

The waves are quite strong today, I wait a while and do some kayaking once the lake is calmer. Lots of people in the cabins along the lake but no music, it is quiet.

We return to camp, Dad takes a shower, I do some laundry. We can hear people talking by the cabins below. Kids playing in the water.

We cook chicken for supper. We take the fly off the tent and sleep under the stars.



Suunday August 23

uneventful, or
A Strange Device

Today is uneventful.

Nick and I walk to the lake in the morning and enjoy the views. We see the three deer on the way down. There are vague trails on very steep slopes and i think that these are deer trails, not human. The deer are not too scared but tend to stay a distance away. We finish the retaining wall, but this job needs lots and lots of rocks. Large rocks. We have a variety of huge rocks here, but you need heavy equipment to move them. Nick pulls out a large mossy rock by my laundry line. Dad and Nick take time to roll the rock towards the wall. The rock is surprisingly heavy for its size and it takes a lot of effort to get it in place.

I want to learn how to make dry stone walls. Stones need to be somewhat flat for this. I want to figure out how to split stones into a flat shape. Perhaps I will research it this winter.



Dad nails the landscape ties together. The wall looks impressive and hopefully we will not have to redo it again next year. We have another very high vertical retaining wall by the tent. If this wall fails, it will be a huge job to rebuild it. We hope the wall will stand.

We are gradually learning how to retain soil on slope. You have to angle the wall in as you build up... It is a science and I can see why Central Okanagan requires permits for any retaining wall over 2 feet.



While we are working on the wall, the three deer come through our camp. They look very curious and check out our tent and kitchen.

Neighbor John stops to visit and offers to take our garbage to the dump. Very nice of him. He is opening an Air B & B in his house this year. His kids moved out.

We pack up and go to our beach. It is quiet and we get our old spot by the private gate. Nick swims and anchors his boat, I kayak. When it is time to return to camp, Nick dives down to pull his anchor. The anchor is on the edge of the big drop. It is very deep on our side of the lake. While diving, Nick finds a curious device under water. It is some kind of system of tubes attached to a brick. I remember that there is a project on the go, looking at impact of septic systems on the water in our community. I bet this is their testing device. We put the device back in the water. The golf

course on Swan Lake uses lots of fertilizer. Same problem with the hay fields that the band leases out. These are the big polluters, but it would be interesting to see what the septic tanks contribute. The water still looks pretty clean though. I often accidentally swallow water when swimming, and I have never been sick.



We go back to camp and cook hotdogs. It is a nice cool night.

Monday August 24

*Cooler Day, or
Safety First!*

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of August. The weather is generally a bit cooler but very pleasant. I do not mind this at all.

Today Dad and I walk up to the top property line. Apparently the neighbor above put a trailer and vehicles on our land, as per John. We cannot see the surveyor's stake but we do see a storage container and trailer. Neighbor leveled out a spot and put gravel there. He may be on some small part of our land but we will not worry about this until and if we build.

We are reminded how beautiful the view is from up here. You can see towards Kelowna and Vernon. This morning it is cloudy and as we are driving to get groceries, it starts raining. We get a drive through breakfast in Armstrong and head to the grocery store. I take out a latte and pastry at the bakery. I convince myself that I do not really need their most wonderful rum balls again.



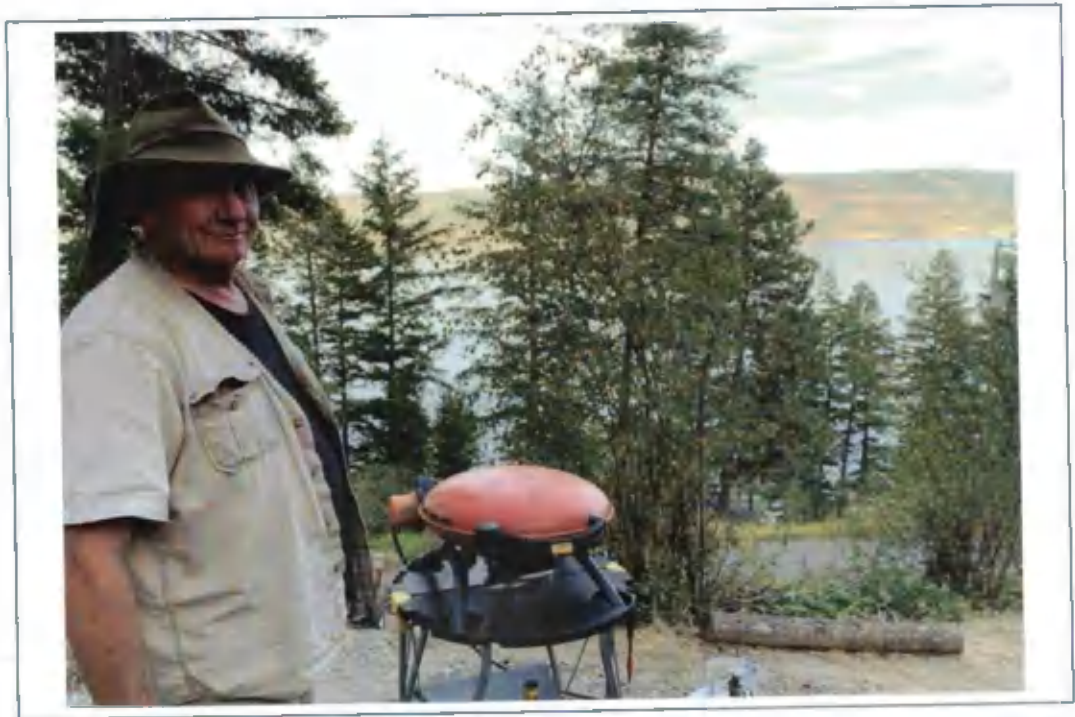
We drive to Vernon to get gas and stop at the fruit stand. I buy a pair of house pants. I have not shopped for a very long time and the pants are very conveniently just there. They have cats on them. All my house pants have crazy print and these will be good as the next pair.

We call our friends Olga and Brad who retired in Penticton last fall. They will come to visit us in Fintry tomorrow. We have to

wait until next year to stay at their house with a pool. I am ok with this, Fintry is great.

We get back to camp and have lunch. It is cool and sunny now and we spend some time reading and enjoying the view.

Dad has a snooze and then we fix the two steps leading down to the kitchen. We found several large thick and flat rocks at the beach. Nick finds a few really big boulders and we pile everything up. Now the steps are wider, hold gravel better and are safer.



We have hamburgers for supper and head to the beach around 6 pm. It is clear now, the lake is calm. It is a bit cold to swim but I have a great kayak run and Nick builds a sand hut. He calls it "Jambalaya Party Hut and Casino". Casino has a willow branch on top.



It gets cold at night. Nick reads six spooky stories. My favorite is the story about the ghost of a cleaning lady at Fairmont hotel in Victoria. Apparently the lady plunged down 6 floors off the fire escape door. All because they forgot to tell her the stairs had been removed. Lady keeps cleaning as a ghost... what a life. Dad's frequent saying "*safety first*" fits this story well. The hotel has two other ghosts apparently.

As Nick reads on, we hear something crashing through the bush. Is this our deer, or as Nick calls them "the park people"? But they are usually quiet. We shine the flashlight into the bush but see nothing. We hope it is not the black bear that Tom saw earlier in August. According to Tom, bears here get fat on fruit and do not care to take your garbage... I do not believe this story.

I wear sweat pants and sweater to bed. I did not unpack my sleeping bag, it is generally too hot for a down bag. I am using my blanket and my insulated mattress. We sleep on cots. Today my bag would probably be nice, but I still refuse to unpack it. It is summer, after all. We see bright stars, and we hear an owl.

Tuesday August 25

Visit with Brad and Olga, or
Unexpected - the Good Side of Getting up at Night

It is amazing how quickly the sun warms up our tent this morning. Cold one moment and hot the next. As soon as the sun is up, it is hot. Desert conditions.



I take a few minutes to type my blog entry this morning. Nick and I walk to the beach to check on the Jambalaya Party Hut and Casino. It is still standing. We have blueberry muffins for breakfast. Yesterday we bought peaches and plums at the fruit stand. My favorite apricots are out of season. We are here a bit later this year due to our circumstances... not a bad time to visit, but apricots and cherries definitely out. Tomatoes, peaches and corn still in and taste great.

We head to Fintry today to meet Olga and Brad. They have never driven West Side road and they miss the turn to Fintry. They drive all the way to Westshore Estates and have to back track. Cell service is intermittent but texting works. I text Olga and they finally make it.

We have a nice visit in Fintry at our usual beach spot. We set up the toilet tent, just in case. Olga and I go for a walk around the park. Olga and Brad tell us about their house, pool, and workshop.

They are enjoying their retirement in Penticton. Nina took a course in permaculture, which is old style gardening and farming. Nina is keen to help us plant things on the hill. But, the hill is not suitable for gardens.

Olga and Brad drive with us to see our setup. I am not sure if they like Westside road. It is narrow and has no shoulders. Scenic.



Nick finds a washed up side of a ponderosa pine on the beach today. It is a very old tree and the wood will look nice in my garden at home. Perhaps I can pack it. We will see if we have room in the truck. I also have to pack fruit, tomatoes and corn. But, we packed lighter this time and I may have space for everything.

We cook chicken for supper. It is a much warmer evening today than yesterday. We sleep well. Bonus for having to get out of the tent at night – stars. I take a few minutes to admire the sky every time I get up...

Wednesday August 26

*Take it Easy, or
A Lost Sun Shirt*

We will take it very easy today. Tomorrow is a big day of shopping and packing, we leave on Friday. We wake up to another beautiful and warm day. Nick and I walk to the beach and sit on the pier. Nick's hut is still standing. Good reason to point out why we do not break other people's sand castles...

I take a shower this morning. Evenings have become just too cool for my outdoor showers. I do some laundry and we head to our community beach. We get a different spot this time, under a different willow tree. Nick tests the floatie that Olga gave him. There is no wind and no waves. I kayak lots today and Dad also takes the kayak to look at our lot from the water. I am finally developing endurance kayaking. If I could kayak daily for another couple of weeks, I would be able to kayak from our beach to Fintry, one way at least.



The event of the day is a lost sun shirt. Nowhere to be found. Could it be under water? Lost forever. Good thing Nick grew out of it anyway.

We cook pork chops for supper, Dad and Nick play Crazy 8 card game. The lake is reflecting sunset. The water looks pink. It is another beautiful evening.

Thursday, August 27

*Hard Day of Packing, or
Pack These Thoughts*

Today we wake up early. We go to Armstrong and get groceries. On the way back we take picture along West Side road.

Here is our drive, documented in pictures.



Leaving Vernon, steam from the lumber mill



Turning onto Westside Road



Odd shaped stipes in the sky – two airplanes? Or one?



Little Kingdom store



Tacos and much, much more...



Westshore Estates and its amazing views



Evely campground



Wainman Cove



Pole with a "chingken" in the nest – the bald eagle chick is still here



Killiney Beach!

Time to go to the beach one last time. We get the prime spot. Shade and sun. Big willow tree and picnic table. Someone put a bench by the lake.



Piece of car – found in the water by Nick



Packing is a big job, the usual. We visit Tom to disconnect the water line. We have supper. We are tired.



Every cloud has a silver lining and this year we enjoyed this vacation more than ever. We are just grateful to have a vacation. We loved the unusually quiet beach. We did not mind a few cooler days. We did not miss the busy attractions. We are glad to have our piece of land and peace of mind, at least today. Perhaps if we can hold on to this feeling, we will be able to make the pandemic winter the best winter it can be. We will see what next summer brings, but for now things are good. Tomorrow we will pack the truck and yes, Nicks' driftwood will fit. We will swim in the lake to wash off the dust and we will say good bye, until next time. The last time.

MMXXI

SPECIAL

Burn, Burn, Burn Those Plans Away



Sunday, July 25, 2021- Friday, August 13, 2021
The Special Entry, Or Burn Burn, Burn Those Plans
Away

This year went haywire when the **White Rock Lake Fire** grilled the plans like the record 45 hotdogs Nick cooked this year. The trip began like no other when Kaos was kenneled for both his pandemic rehabilitation and his torn ligament from 2020. The vacation began in Banff as usual (Site 30E) and then took to illecillewaet National Park for 2 nights. Nick filmed Wild Nature, his new series and plenty of memories were made.



in illecillewaet, Nick filmed episodes, we hiked to Glacier House, saw lots of nature, and then made dinner. Nick disappeared for 2 hours but returned later with news that horrified Mom; There were over a dozen grizzly sightings in the past month! Mom freaked out as Nick told more, and Dad thought the trip was ruined. That night, during Crib, Dad got out the AM radio we bought for the occasion and Nick found a Baptist Revival from South Carolina on Short Wave. Nick adored his discovery of Christ, but Mom and Dad were driven mad. The next day Nick almost got the gang in trouble for trespassing onto a closed off area. The fine would have been \$25,000 dollars. The night was cold, as temperatures dropped to near-negative.



The second day the bad news came. Mom discovered a new fire that destroyed West Side Road had broken out. The hill was covered in smoke and Tom had to quit work, which meant the worst. This sent the holidays into frenzy. Nick thought Wild Nature would be cut short, but he was wrong. Mom and Dad found Pocahontas Cabins, where we stayed for 2 nights, and Nick was ecstatic to find TV there. Mom sent Nick to the pool, and Dad met an Irishman who also could not work the barbecues there. Nick was also pleased to find out that The Secret of Skinwalker Ranch was returning September 5, and we spent the night binging The Proof is Out There. Nick slept on a sofa with Edward and the next day everyone went to Pyramid beach. Mom and Nick kayaked, but Nick almost died when he disembarked on an island harboring a juvenile grizzly. Nick then forced Mom to do a “James Bond move” and soar under a bridge. She did.

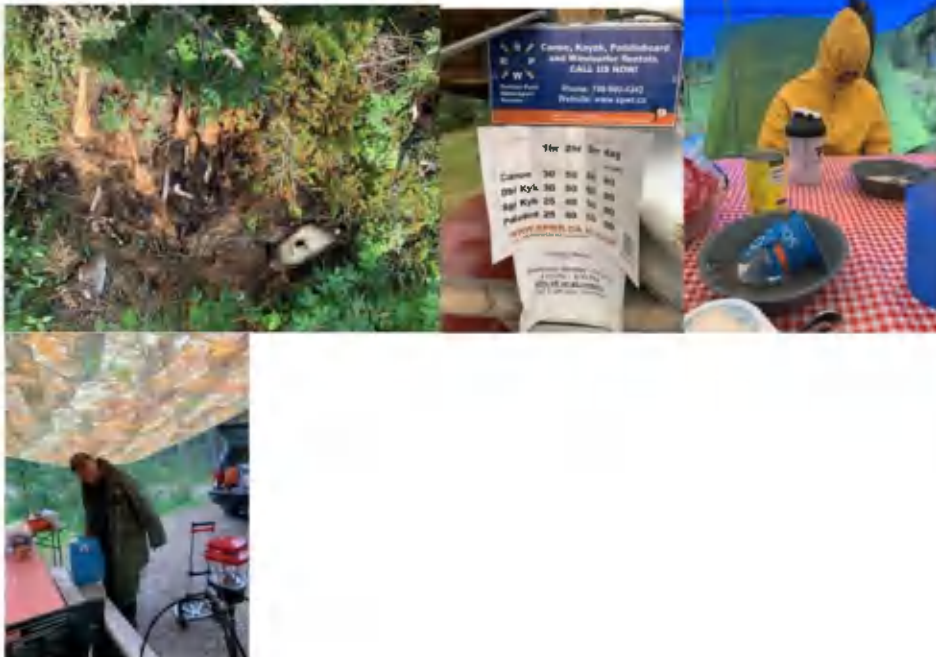


On day 6, with the fires no better and stretching within 5 miles of Kiliiney Beach, we all packed up and went to William A. Switzer Provincial Park, a place overrun by Squirrels. This meant the battle

against Chief Nut-Nut was in hand. Nick regrets not bringing Kaos. The set-up was a piece of cake, being the best one we ever had. (Site E6). Nick got a lot of exercise trudging around the campground. He regrets not bringing his bike. The lakeside area was unreachable because it was located 3 km from Grizzly (G) loop. Nick beat Mom and dad at Crib that night, but he did not just beat them, he ANNIHILLATED them! He pulled ahead with some superior hands at 30%, then SKUNKED THEM BOTH!



The next days were eventful. Nick and Mom walked an uphill path (the “short cut”) to get Nick a snow cone, Mom kayaked on Gregg Lake and lots of exploration was done. Mom and Nick, while renting kayaks, always had to race back on overtime. Nick hated that. However, it was also good. They discovered some black water with breathtaking sea life, Death Island with a dead Elk and trout, probably once explored by Indians, and some strange canals on a peninsula. The biggest discovery, made with Dad, was private property, several moored boats and a dock far, far away. Nick also went Chicken Little during a sprinkle, while Dad got soaking wet in it. We would need to drycleaners a few times.



When some rubbernecking for the Best Western was done, we made the mistake of playing the Beatles Channel. They played Love by John Lennon, which made Nick choke up over Kaos. Nick also had a wild time on the zipline, which took forever. He did get along with the pug, though.



The next exploring done was to other lakes. Graveyard Lake was an abandoned, unmaintained 7-site loop where you had to register the old-fashioned way; pen and paper and cold cash. Cache Lake, located only next to Graveyard, encompassed the canoe route, which grew unmaintained in the 90s and no longer functions. Jarvis Lake was a major discovery, as Mom loved the kayaking opportunities. Nick tried to use the hiking trail to the campground, but it grew impossible, and ended up at the highway.



Nearing the end of the camping season, Nick went bushwhacking through the bush near the site, a thick, hilly trail that grows unmaintained. He found himself on a maintained trail, which turned out to be the Kettle Valley Trail. He identified it by an interpretive sign. Nick's bushwhacking was done because he re-enacted his "Power Rangers", to Mom and Dad's chagrin. After cleaning up, the final night was spent as a late one, watching the breathtaking stars and burning down the fire.



The next day, everyone went to Kelly's Bathtub, a waterhoie with a 1-km loop around it. Mom loved it, and found it peaceful. We sat and watched an old man think the water was cold, then left and ate lunch at a picnic table. Nick noticed that like at Goldbar, certain tables were designated for drunks. Switzer Park may have been nice, but we proclaimed the whole area to be under attack not only by Chief Nut-Nut, but also Whisky Jacks. Nick was no help, as he egged them on. We also saw they were having a praznick with an Arab table.



We all packed it in and went to Best Western, where Nick fooled around and made Mom and Dad on edge by going up to the concierge and saying, “Bean” in a low, British voice. The room was small, but the Optik TV was a hit. Mom sent Nick to the pool and we ate camp food again. We then watched *Alone*, this year set in Chilko Lake, BC. Nick then messed up the TV and we had to call the concierge up to fix it. He said that the problem lay in the cable box not turning on and them getting out of sync. Nick was happy to have a fluffed pillow to sleep on.

The next day we were served complimentary breakfast. Dad had coffee and weinies, Mom had an omelette and Nick had a breakfast burrito and waffles. He also had an apple. We went to Athabasca Falls and Nick thought it was lame. He was expecting more water! Mom and Dad were shocked by how much he grew! (6”). We also went to Miette Canyons, where Nick once again was disappointed by not going to the Sixth Bridge. We ate lunch and went and ordered a pizza as Boston Pizza. Nick was left in the room so Mom and Dad could pick it up. We ate like kings and watched *Alone*. During his exploration of the hotel, Nick got sucked into Ricky’s Bar & Grill and took joy rides on the elevator. Nick also jogged on the elliptical and burned 12 calories before giving up.



The end had come for the vacation. We all packed up and zoomed out of there, bound for home. In Edson, Dad should not have sped on the bridge, because he received his second speeding ticket in over 50 years. The first one was received on the way back from Carson-Pegasus when he was listening to Italian soccer. We could not stop at the farm because of the open house, but we made it home a day early. When we picked up Kaos the next day, he had lost weight and had barked himself hoarse... but would it last? (No).



In conclusion, this year was a special year. Due to increased Global Warming and droughts, the BC wildfires have spread out of control. Just weeks after, we learned the indian store burned down and the fires destroyed West Side Road. It missed our property, went diagonally down to its demise at the beach and we have been saved. Mom plans to make a trip there in fall, but Nick

is highly against it. Although we never set foot on that slope, we will never forget the **Fires of '21**.

*Burn, burn, burn those plans away
Strike, strike, strike until you light a forest fire
Well, it will burn a thousand hectares and will leave a ton of ash.
Ol' BT's gonna be a burnt-up state!*

Year 5 (2022)



Spring Break 2022

Drilling Down: Spring Break Trip

This year we take a new different look at the hill. With Niek on vacation, we decided to sashay off to the hill and stay in an Airbnb in Armstrong for a week during tireless work. After all, this is the last year of the blog!

We stayed in a “Hitler’s Bunker” basement this year with a TV with a channel called METV. The showings were old favorites like Andy Griffith and Gomer Pyle, both great shows, but also the surprisingly awful Green Acres. At the hill, we made 3 strategic fires to burn the crap on it. During this, Nick explored the Stonehenge area at the top near Tom’s and dug a massive poop hole!



We continued the trip with a visit with Auntie Olga (Pop deserted us for his cousins because Uncle Brad has differing views of the Russia-Ukraine war.) Olga walked a million miles over amazing, awe-inspiring cherry orchards, one of our most cherished moments.



It seems that this year also Niek has made a point to be extra-zany!



On the way home, we listened to Patrick Ball Harp through the mountains. How Peaceful!

Bonus: winter at Killiney beach, one we'll never know...



Day 1 (July 16)

One-More-Time! Or, Road Terrors

We return to the hill for year 5!-No Kaos and Edward, unfortunately. After the terrorizing wildfires, we made it past the "Iron Curtain" of Glacier Park but first spent a night in Banff. Ma was very excitable, and panicked hard when horror struck on the road. Not only did some lamebrain try to cut a formation of motorcycles, but a Tesla slowed dangerously down on the highway! She thought we were finished! After this, new routes will be considered to the hill in future... On arrival, Nick climbed a challenging and wild basin wall to get a photo to frame in the house. This basin had got to have been half a mile! Nick persevered through grizzly country to the hidden stream, climbing over rocks and fighting thickets. After a successful trip, he got the 1st of 8 cuts on his hands and arms this vacation!



When we finally started the fire, it went up like “Jehovah’s Witnesses!” per Nick. The wood was really dry and no wonder there is high risk. To chop wood for this behemoth, Nick used “Big Bessie” the maul. To note, the ride involved a listen to *60s Gold* and the hit, “Surfin’ Bird” by the Trashmen.

The last production of the tent was tonight, when Nick laughed uncontrollably and Pop could only chant the mantra, “When I was sixteen, I wanted my own tent!”

Day 2 (July 17)

Mistaken Road or, Beach Again

Today a trip to the crowded Two Jack Lake beach. Nick abided a kayak ride and Ma and Pop went in love with a lady’s foldable kayak (which was heavy, really). Nick was found to be much more skilled, and saw an old service road (logging?). This meant he risked another deadly bear encounter by getting out. Pop saw the dam. Ma and Nick wanted to get a bus into Banff but were too exhausted. Nick dubbed tonight’s flame, “Banff Palace”. He chopped a lot of lumber! This flame was demonic, also. The tarp almost went ablaze, quickening the preemptive tear down. Though it rained, Nick tamed his Rain-O-Phobia for a quick Wild Nature episode. Haunted Canada 11 tonight!



Day 3 (July 18)

The Llama or, Rushed Set-Up

Today we woke early with an alarm, and Nick was quite the scoundrel and pest in set-up/tear down. He prefers a “quick, efficient” way, per Ma and Pop’s “Careful, nothing gets broken!” We saw a big “llama” elk on our way out this crack of dawn and had lunch at Mount Revelstoke. There, Nick and Pop heard a massive tree fall and shake the ground. Arrived at the slope late, and if it weren’t for more crazy chaos, we would never have set up, thanks Nick! Although, there were lots of weeds on the pad to cut with the machete. Pop spent hours chewing fat with John and finally we made it to the beach for dinner. To be fair, Ma did drop all her packing to scarf on berries. She was never so overjoyed in her life! Stress made itself known when two legs on the bug tent were found to be stuck. Nick hoped to spread out to “cover more ground” in unpacking, but no, everyone wanted to huddle together! After all this, Ma is still convinced the hill is Therapeutic.



Day 4 (July 19)

Dirty-Foot Nightmare or Mutated Bees

Ma wakes up with dirty feet and freaks out, not only that, Nick is sore from the tent and insomniac. Way to go! Pop now tries to fix the shower pump. Apparently the whole thing leaks now thanks to 2021's extreme heat and cold. Broken ballows is the diagnosis. We retrieved ice twice today from LaCasa, something that is a bit of a chore now. This is the last day we also go to Fintry! Those killer bees have mutated into mosquitos and sandflies now, and we see they will begin asking for pass money to get in. (A booth was under construction). Nick was apprehensive this year about going in the water, he hates it now thanks to the last swimming lesson in fall. He also found joy in the new African virus known as "Redmablach", which was found on the BBC, the only thing we can listen to now, thanks to Pop.

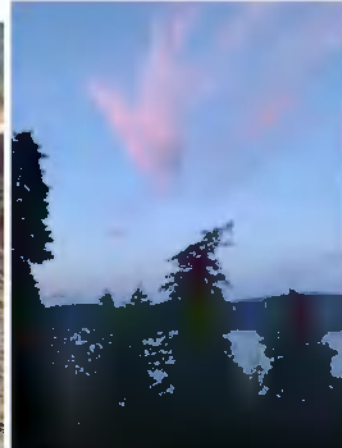


It is cute to note that a lab named "Rowley" decided to chase a family of ducks across the beach today. He was unstoppable! These same ducks visited us on shore at lunch, to Ma's chagrin. Nick also introduces us to "Swipe" today. A new card game bestowed upon him by friend "Simon", the goal is to shed your cards in yet another conniving manner. Pop got all the cards dumped on him, ending up with half the deck.

Day 5 (July 20)

Extirpation of the Wasps or New Floatie

We now find today that we need to wake up early to go to the beach as soon as the sun clears a big tree in front of the tent, it is furnace time. We also favor a spot with lots of shade, and people we think, also favor this. (Double crossed! They don't like its proximity to the pier!) We now perpetually go to our own beach, but today Nick has found a hole in the dingy. Right along the seam! We patch it, but not before he tries to sink it! Ma kayaks yet again today, and witnesses the big, huge burnt forest where that dreadful fire was. She is stunned. Nick also has taken the new habit of wandering aimlessly on the road in the dry heat! Inexplicable! Nick visited the dogs today, and Waylen barks loudly! To add to the noise, there is one cricket on our steps that won't stop!



This beach day, everyone went in separately. Ma was happy also to see a hummingbird, a rare sighting. Dinner cooking was also peaceful for a change, no wasps. It may have helped that the bug tent was very hot.

Day 6 (July 21)

Circus Music or UAPs

Waylen was oh, so kind to wake us up today! He barked. He may really do share personality with Kaos! Nick today saw more unidentified aerial phenomena, like Skinwalker Ranch and made a new invention with the aid of attaching the old dingy oars to the river ring. With this, he paddled out to deep water to explore. Ma got new breakfast sandwiches today. Nick takes the fore today with "skydiving" underwater- jumping and swimming in deep water, taking off the scuba vest upside down. He also thinks a yard is longer than a mile, so when he says he went "far- 8 yards!" he really means "far- 8 meters!" As part of these stunts, he found it amusing to ride on the open truck gate when loading kayaks and Pop had to shift the machine. Ma and Pop were getting pretty tired of him, though. He forced their ears on the outdated notes of Laurel and Hardy "circus" music to LaCasa. It wasn't this that made Pop angry, it was the "country" song at the end! Women singing! In further notice, Pop was happy to see the 10 pot stands on Westside road and one with "Mister Bab Marley!!"



In further entertainment, wind took form on the hill this evening and the shower blew over! It rolled down and crashed on the old tree! Ma made a perfect cup of hot chocolate tonight, though. Until this scolding one, Nick guzzled his all this year!



Day 7 (July 22)

Laser Night Frights or -

Armstrong was our breakfast stop this morning! Eating with the farmers! While in civilization, Nick got a haircut (with lots of loud talkin' from the people) and Ma went shopping for 4 day's food. Judy phoned on the beach today via facetime Viber and we utilized a new umbrella this time. Although this one may not last, the plastic screw is starting to break. We also had the pleasure of seeing 3 whole families with little tikes! Nick went adventuring beyond the perimeter of the beach today but came back early for an impending storm that never hit "I don't like the look of those clouds!" Pop saw some "Speedoo"s racing around out on the lake. To compound this, we noticed lots of loud party boats going out late at midnight during our otherwise peaceful rests. Nick got yet another renewal of his new craze; Porkchops, tonight. Pop and Nick had a rare moment of teamwork also when they muscled apart the shower for repair. More stress known now that Ma lost her phone for 15 minutes and Nick had to tear around the acre looking for it

in the most unobvious places. Everyone needs a bath, according to Ma- we are stinky and attract flies!

In further excitement, Pop went to use the toilet to alieve his constipation, but all we heard were hilarious cursings and crashing trees instead of the usual noises. The toilet leg collapsed and he almost tumbled down the hill!! Boy, was he pissed! Our whole set-up is crumbling and that is a sign to leave!

Nick held “laser experiments” tonight with the flashlights but encountered a deer on the road, and, consequently, had to sweat his way to sleep.



Day 8 (July 23)

Lost Again or Pissy Nick

Consequently for waking up fast this morning, Nick was “pissy”. He tried to whack some dead branches off with the machete but Ma put a stop to it. She thought he was to “commit mayhem”. He takes his first morning walk! Today we met a new mysterious couple from Whitecourt who walk the beach level ground. We amazingly hit it off. Intriguingly also, we saw Michelle, some crazy thin lady who walks the hellish hills of this community! Today Pop gets his defining injury of the year; Trenchfoot. He was wearing hot boots all this time but while sitting with his feet on the palm tree roots, he developed peeling skin on his foot sole. He will need some new Polysporin for this!

On the way to LaCasa today, we saw the horrifying nature of traffic. Motorbikes passed blindly on the road and no one looked both ways to cross that road in the community. One day there will be a massacre, they don't know it. During a digging operation, Nick got an intense sting from a horsefly, but it didn't last long. He also evaded future wasp problems on the steps by plugging a hole he saw a bumblebee crawl in. "He is still alive!" he said months later. Ma claimed the pump died, while Nick saw the skeleton of a spider.



Day 9 (July 24)

Blue Lips on the Hill

Apparently Nick lost his snorkel mask, snorkel tube and the last torpedo a few days ago so he and Pop go looking for them. He tracks down his tube by accident and Nick relocates his torpedo based on a fuzzy memory, but after lots of searching, they turn up no trace of the mask, lost 4 days ago. However, all is not lost. They had an "Ocean Trade" by finding two sunglasses and a Reacher. Unfortunately, Nick was out so long his teeth started chattering, unbelievable at 39 degrees! Pop had him wear his wetsuit. After completing the Laurel/Hardy music today, it ended in 9 minutes of silence. Ma felt crazy with the heat.



It seems new nature sightings are being made. A groundhog was spotted and Pop saw a big, plump trout (Nick would later fish for this with a thick tow rope). Pop also went crazy for a kingfisher bird and Nick tried catching a school of minnows with Pop's

snorkel mask. To add, Nick keeps meeting a small orange “OBT” spider in the washroom.

Day 10 (July 25)

Big Day or, Day of New’s or even, Eating too Much

Today is our annual trip to civilization! Ma was experiencing our trip here again because the road after LaCasa to Westbank is a rough slip-n-slide which really gave the truck a run for its money! Unfortunately, our preplanned trip to see Olga is off forever because she has heat stroke. Luckily that did not dampen our spirits there. Nick rode the Go-Karts at LocoLanding, but he would be lucky to get back there again, he was the only driver to misbehave in both runs, and in the second he angered a father-son team. Luckily he handled the turns with ease, gliding swiftly without losing a touch! But the big attraction for him was the bookstore, as this year he was intrigued by the archiving skills, only wishing it was nitrate film instead of ancient texts. (Pop stated it would be a bomb!) Nick got some new books to read, one colonial and Mystery of Edwin Drood, which peaked his interest. Pop also dragged in there to get another WW2 book.



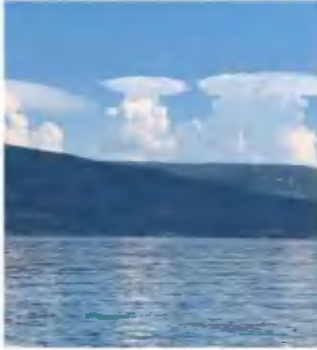
Nick then visited the Wibit one last time in Peachland. He met an old father from Birmingham and got yet another cut on it inexplicably! (5!) Ma and Pop located a new fish and chips vender and we ate in the park, being stuffed, Nick then had a 15-minute bathroom trip to combat his constipation. He once again got sweaty!

Day 11 (July 26)

Hose Leaks or, New People

The hose exploded! A new leak! Nick treated Ma and Pop to the foreign rarities of Solser en Hesse this morning to Armstrong, but it didn’t last long. We could not get our spot on the beach today, but that could be a blessing in disguise, as we met a new couple; Dave and Kelly. They are both from Valemont and Dave is a retired logger. Nick had plenty to say about the north of BC and he and Pop never spoke so much in their lives, jabbering

about their youthhood excursions. Kelly is quite strange, to Ma, as she spent all day in her dingy in the hot sunshine. How she doesn't get burned, we don't know!



We also later met Dave's surfer friend Raymond, a beach bum who knows all the inside details on the community!

Day 12 (July 27)

The Geese

We were amused, to say the least today to wake up to the airshow of a huge flock of geese honking and circling overhead. In interestment, Pop noticed that the rock music of below is compounded by operas music up top! Ma has found a new enemy in the least of her knowledge; a chipmunk! Parschivitz! Per Nick's idea, Ma and Pop finally got the names of that mysterious couple; it could only be... Johanne and Donald! Now that we know all these people, it is almost a single step to move right in. We planned to meet Dave and Kelly again, but they did not want to disturb us from reading and parked across the beach. (!?) The heat today was arduous, and Nick pulled a new stunt, and climbed a big rocky cliff from the beach parking lot to the road.

Day 13 (July 28)

Failed Plans or Boring Nothingness

Wild Nature returns tonight. Dave and Kelly have friends over today so we have our own family time. Pop has patched the dingy, but it now leaks from the sides, further along the seams. (Yet another reason not to go to Fintry; no dingy to rely on and the net in the middle of the ring gave out on Nick!) Today Nick was very bored, but Kelly talked with Ma about a new restaurant called *Farmstrong* and offered some tourism suggestions to keep us busy. We went to Vernon to get dinner and Taco Del Mar and Pop got some new sandals to combat his Trenchfoot. The heat there "sucks the air out of us" and is worse than the hill Suddenly it's luxury?? Some strange clouds were spotted today as well... ?

Day 14 (July 29)

A Day In the Village

To start our day, a stalker was spotted parked by our cliff (license number PF598T). Nick strutted by him to get details and claimed he was a serial killer (long dead). Luckily it cleared up quickly, he was a contractor arrived early for work. What dummies we are!



We went to Naramata today and Ma checked out a teahouse “fit for Hyacinth!” Nick found the beach to be quite smaller than before, and made some new friends on the dock and sailed out far. He also uncovered a mysterious safe? Chained to a tarp 5 feet below? This is actually an old camper furnace. Nick and Ma walked to a café for lunch but it was closed, so Nick helped himself to a “Redneck Taco” at the general store (Which also didn’t have freezies??) This is a simple recipe; Dorito bag and filler. Nick also took the liberty of peaking his wandering habit with an hour-long walk through the Naramata streets. Ma and Pop had Murray’s Pizza and Pop tracked a tramp at the grocery store eying our truck. Nick saw the Wibit close for the first time and developed a new interest in a band called “Flying Machine” and their one-hit-wonder, “Smile a Little Smile For Me”. (With this grit, it can be known that Ma’s tears, Pop’s sweat and Nick is blood.

Horror Halloween Night (6-11pm)

We drive back to Killiney beach late. We are near Westbank when we decide to return a call to neighbor Tom! Our spigot has exploded on his property! He has some Smalltalk to an increasingly angered Pop, who turns into Home Depot, 20 minutes from closing. Pop drops the call and rushes around finding the parts he needs, in a race against time! At the checkout, the female cypher he picked had no price tag! The sails associate was new on the job and apologized, while Pop raced back frantically. He cursed his way home, and we drove Westside Road at night! All the while Ma prods to do it in the morning, but Pop is adamant about doing it RIGHT NOW!



We arrive at Tom's and get to work. Ma worries about privacy, but Nick snags 3 photos to document the event! (He also gets sprayed with the spigot.) We unpack in the dark, and Ma can't see! Her blood pressure rises as the truck backs up the driveway of doom! After all this, it is a late night and Nick finally sees the Milky Way galaxy and breathtaking stars aurora beyond! Ma forces him in bed.

Day 15 (July 30)

Duck For Dinner/Death's Home

Today we almost lost our spot on the beach by 10 minutes. Nick watches as the beach goes from empty to the busiest yet today. (Long Weekend). Nick then defined the day by honing his Kaos persona to chase a duck for a half hour along the beach rope. He was only 2 feet away from him but he never caught him, only vowing revenge which would never come and losing his oar. Pop tried snorkeling for it but was surprised to see how murky it was. This is also, sadly, the last voyage of the dingy. It now has joined the Daisy-Pusher's club.



Nick then went diving, conquering the depths of the rope closest to the pier but could not touch the 25 meters of darkness between both docks. He named it the “death zone” and stated, “It he exists, at all, that where death is”. How haunting. Raymond stopped by on his motorbike, which Nick wanted to see drive. But today is conquered by Nick’s wildlife sighting of the year. Nick had gone to explore what he thought was THE bat cave, but was stopped in his tracks by the sighting of “cuddles” the black bear. He was so plump from the berries, having migrated down the hill from above Westside Road. Nick had just enough time to snap some photos before high tailing it out of there. Another close encounter of the Ursus Major kind.

Day 16 (July 31)

Miscommunicationing/A Special Thing

Penultimately, Nick gets his 7th cut from the... tent, sleeping? It was on his elbow. Today marked the history of our wildlife, as our deer friend was christened the holy name of “Loren”. Today Nick spent his third day in a row swimming 7 hours at a time, and for good reason. For today he officially retired the *Underwater King*. It is no more. He refuses to go in the water, stating he’ll risk Polio. Another key point today was that our neighbors on the beach were of the middle-east kind and led for us to enjoy a “Hot India Beach Day”, listening to sitar music by George Harrison. Pop had to go to Vernon again today to return his busted sandals. He had only used them 2 days! He got some nice cork-bottom ones at Sport-check, and that lasted. His Trenchfoot would take a month to heal. To wrap the day, Nick got a root beer float in Armstrong which he was shocked to know later it was his Dinner! The way home was made difficult when Ma and pop tried to examine a new road from Armstrong but got lost (Pop only looked at the map 2 seconds).



On arrival back at the Hill, Nick worked his butt off, establishing the 5th level, “*Manya’s Lookout*” out of tree bark he found near John’s property (A property dispute between Ma and Pop). He made plans to prospect an overgrown area in the upper left part of the property but was warded off by barbed wire. Nick would now fight with ma to be washed up, breaking a wedge between them. (Compound this with the comical notion of Ma to mention hygiene at the most unnecessary moment, ie, in bed). Nick slept in the hammock tonight, being kicked out from Ma and Pop (Pop continually said, “Quiet” when he was reading and Ma started being bossy and cranky instead of making her old cackles). Nick enjoyed a night of frigid temperatures and his Deer friends strutting by in the early morning. (1 foot!).



Series Finale

Day 18 (Aug. 1/2)

That Which Does Not Kill Us Yet... or, The Edmonton Elephants Ultimate Finale

This morning we woke up to golden autumnal colors. Today it turns out Dave and Kelly invited Nick on a quad ride in Dave's side-by-side "buggy". Nick went along with his friends Rudy and Dennis (old cop). This would be interesting! First, Nick was dropped off in their community, which Ma observed was building new homes already. Dave and Kelly were already, and showed us their raspberries. (They have too much and cannot eat them for health issues). Finally Nick set out, and Ma was adamant for him to be "nice".



Nick recalls driving for a short time to an old parking lot where they piled out. There were a bunch of old dirt roads that they would go on there. But as Nick and Dave made their way in one, a blue one, Rudy and Dennis took a wrong turn and ended up seeing some farmer who was different from the one Dave and Nick were talking to! Everyone reunited by some logging machinery and made off on a quad trail down some electric poles which was not unlike Alberta's landscape. Nick saw the lovely yellow meadows and rich trees. It turns out, as they reveled upon stopping "for a whizz", Dennis wet his pants and was known the rest of the trip as "Soggypants". They made their way on, taking another road to Spanish Lake, but Nick and Dave soon found they had to slow down for Rudy because he was so far behind in their dust. The lunch was held, and it is not to be mistaken and should be confirmed that yes, Dave did drive into the lake itself for that perfect picture. Apparently there is a lot of dust, and Nick found his lunchbox covered in the thick soot. Dennis enjoys his "fireball" White Rum. There was also a short excursion through the hazy logging community where about 4 hectares of land was chopped up!

The afternoon was spent mapping new trail systems, so they found one promising trail which they wouldn't forget. This one disintegrated off a precipice (we could see Falkland!) and Nick and Dave took the risky turn-around at a 90-degree angle. That is much better, and Rudy had to float 3 tires to try and pull around and ended up backing out. Heading home, Nick stopped to take lots, lots and lots of pictures of cows, and even had a conversation with them! They also had to backtrack because Rudy took every alternate way but the right one out and got lost.



And all must end... This last day was some uneventful packing and Nick did some final preparations to the hill for the long winter. (He wanted to “erase our presence”). Pop carried out the careful individual filing of all shed stuff and Ma tried her best to wrangle Nick into submission so he wouldn’t ruin the whole thing. Comically, Ma’s dress got caught on the truck gate during packing of the cooler. (“For cuddles!”) And we also “burn our bridges behind us”, as Nick noted the official collapse of that big retaining wall on our pad! At last we pull off the slope- and the truck never flipped! - For we are off to Lumby and an “enthraling” cabin for a quick recovery. (Interesting note: Ma made her first mistake booking an Airbnb by forgetting a night.) At the beach, we noted some seabirds resting on the dock out at sea and the swimming rope half floated away (a sign it is time to leave). On that note, possibly cliffhanging, there is new evidence of wasp activity in the shed- is nowhere on this hill safe?? We unhooked from Tom’s and whisked off.

It is the end of yet another year of work and toil. And as we floor the gas to escape this sanctuary, we know that our job to establish the “divine settlement” is over. It took blood, sweat and tears, but we made it, with just enough blood to make it back. Though there could’ve been a lot more luxury to install, the gritty, challenging part is over, and Killiney Beach, Westside Road, Edmonton Elephants and the Mystery persist beyond anything we could have ever imagined...

Dénouement.



Day 12 (July 27) - while others think no rains begin is 2

Officer Nistic was chased higher up to combat per music on boat.
a ~~blowdown~~ is the new enemy of Mr. Grosse here from
over land this morning, noisy. Not out (Mike's idea) introduced to Johnnie/
David (possibly under) - also know now available (every morning
July). Don and Larry are magnificent and get every the birds
not to disturb us. Heat is obvious, with clouds cliff face back
to road (along lot). 40°C

Day 13 (July 28) - while water returns tonight. Went to
beach. Air/hotly have found our. Rotted Dring still parks
(cinders along seams). Mike was very bored. Had to return
pre-emptively for storm. Went to Vernon to get Dring, searched
for an hour, but head (40°C) was getting on out of us.
The storm was coming. Tico del Mar was on watch.

Day 14 (July 29) - A shelter was found by a cliff
legal action considered. Initially found was to be a contractor.
In Nandan, on way saw "Meredith's" (Mike) and went to
beach (possibly). Mike used Paul ring to go further out (one shelter/case then
past) Nelson walked up towards shore for lunch (Rachelle's) - ~~Mike~~
→ Mike and the friends on shore and watched all shots of (big
narrator. Had "Meredith's" in Rachelle and other end of 20th for
6th May 1960.

Let's get started.

Tom called for the "blow down" and Greg moved at the back,
or maybe (other had no priority!) - one who'll see hand in back!

Behind the scenes: notecard

Thanks to 7 glorious years!